The Weather
Today—Cloudy and chilly. Yesterday—High, 38; low, 31.
Fuel-oil consumption to date, 33 per cent of yearly allotment.

The Washington Post

Single Copy Price 5c

NO. 25,029 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Postoffice, Washington, D. C. — Copyright, 1944, By The Washington Post. — WASHINGTON: MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1944

CARRIER DELIVERY. CITY ZONE Daily and Sunday $1.10 per Month. Daily Only, .65 per Mo.—Sun. Only, .45 per Mo. SINGLE COPY PRICE Daily, $0.05 Sunday, .10

U. S. Counterattacks Gain Four Points, 7000 Planes Batter German Positions

15,000 Take Part in Tree Ceremony at White House

President Urges Effort to Hasten Foes' Doom in Talk From Hyde Park

By Emily Towe

A throng of 15,000 persons assembled on the White House lawn for the annual community Christmas tree ceremony yesterday heard President Roosevelt predict in his Yule message, "We may hasten the day of doom against our enemies if we at home continue to do our full share."

For more than an hour the shivering spectators braved the bitter weather to hear the President's speech broadcast from Hyde Park and join in holiday carols. They pressed against ropes that surrounded the Christmas tree and speakers' platform, while a few ingenious children were perched in White House trees.

Brilliantly Ornamented

The Christmas tree, unlighted because of wartime conservation, was bedecked with hundreds of brilliant ornaments contributed by the children of Washington as tribute to fighting men in this country and on foreign battlefields.

From the south portico of the White House, wounded servicemen from Walter Reed Hospital, invited by Mrs. Roosevelt before she left for Hyde Park, observed the ceremony.

Unable to participate in the celebration within the grounds, many persons peered from outside the iron fences. This vantage point from the sidewalk was apparently considered more desirable than sloshing through the icy mud on the White House lawns.

Carols Are Feature

After a concert of seansonal music by the United States Marine Band under direction of Capt. William F. Santlemann, the spectators sang traditional carols. Many small children prepared for the cold in earmuffs, galoshes and heavy coats, were the most zestful participants.

The United States Navy School of Music Chorus, joined by a Wave chorus, led the community singing. Harriet Billings, Junior Girl Scout of Troop 100, gave a greeting from Girl Scouts of the Nation and Robert Page, Boy Scout of Troop 100, spoke as a representative of the boys of America. Both pledged that their resjective groups would perform every possible task to hasten victory.

Mason Addresses Crowd

District Commissioner Guy Mason, chairman of the National Community Christmas Tree Committee, said in his introductor, speech: "The only light that penetrates the shrowd of sadness which envelops almost every family in our land comes from that faith in the Lord which the Star of Bethlehem heralded the coming."

In the President's speech broadcast nationally and shortwaved to

See TREE, Page 2, Column 5.

15 on Airliner Landed Safely After Collision

Ypsilanti, Mich., Dec. 24 (U.P.)—An American Airliner made a force landing without injury to the 15 passengers and crew today after its left wing was struck with full impact in mid-air by a Civil Air Patrol trainer, whose occupants, company officials said, prrachuted to safety.

Ralph S. Damon, vice president and general manager of American Airlines, said the transport's pilot, Capt. Victor Evans, was "deserving of great credit" for the safe landing. He said the freak collision with the trainer was the first accident of its kind in the history of the company.

The airliner, en route from Detroit to Chicago, was brought down in a belly landing, wheels still retracted, on a farm near Saline, Mich.

Don Gridley, instructor, and a girl student, identified only as a Miss Cramer, occupants of the trainer, bailed out.

Damon said the "falling" trainer struck the leading edge of the left wing outboard of the motor, requiring Evans to make his emergency landing with the greatest speed.

Tracks Mistaken

B'ar Hunt Right Here in D. C. Has Doggone Happy Ending

Faces of Six Police And Two Nimrods Red —And Not From Cold

The sea serpent myth—as corny a tale as ever was used to fill up white space on paper—had a runnerup yesterday.

"A bear is prowling about in the rear of 3905 Reservoir rd. nw." blared the police radio yesterday morning, setting in motion one of the zaniest expeditions in police records. Zoo attendants had a few anxious moments, too.

It started when Edmund Leonard of Haymarket, Va., who said he's been hunting ever since he was a small boy, looked out a window of his brother's home at the Reservoir rd., address, and shouted: "Whoops! A bear!"

Brother Robert, his wife and their threered-haired daughters, Peggy, 2; Marian, 6; and Ruby, 9, dropped their Christmas tree trimmings and dashed to the window.

"Sure is," agreed Robert, another self-admitted life-long hunter.

Lacking shootin' irons, the brothers decided to enlist the aid of police.

When the "bear loose" call came over the air a Post reporter called Dr. William Mann at the Zoo to ask if any of his collection was AWOL. Dr. Mann wasn't there but an aide said he'd have to count the critters. He phoned back: "Thank's a lot for calling, but we've got all our bears."

The Ursine Canine

Meanwhile, six police from the Metropolitan and Park Service forces arrived at the Leonard home—all armed to the teeth. "The bear," reported the brothers Leonard, "has gone to the brook

See BEAR, Page 2, Column 5.

Pope Cautions Against Lasting Burden on Axis

Favors Punishment, With Eventual Role In Society of Nations

Vatican City, Dec. 24 (AP).—Pope Pius XII in an annual Christmas message today welcomed Allied proposals for a strong organization to prevent aggression, but warned no "perpetual ourden" should be imposed on vanquished nations if peace is to endure.

While governments and peoples responsible for this war must be punished, the Pontiff declared, they eventually must be allowed to become members of the society of nations.

In his sixth war Christmas address broadcast to the world, Pope Pius praised as the best form of government a democracy founded on the obligations as well as rights of individuals, declared that democracy can exist in a monarchy as well as republic, and denounced state absolutism.

Assails "Enemy of Christ"

Earlier in an address to the College of Cardinals, the Pope spoke specifically against "the enemy of Christ and His church" who, he said, was trying to "transform himself into an angel of light," using the words liberty, independence and democracy to "chloroform the vigilance" of the faithful.

He did not, however, identify this "enemy of Christ."

Cautioning the cardinals that turmoil may be widespread after the war, the Pope declared the conflict has brought "restless agitation" and a "frenzy for novelty" to many of the masses, but that it also has brought the world a powerful "desire for reform." Men as well as frontiers will have changed as a result of war, he declared.

His broadcast message stressed that future peace hangs on recog-

See POPE, Page 2, Column 6.

50 Superforts Hit Iwo Jima, Set Off Blasts

Light Opposition To B-29s Indicates Island Weakened

By the Associated Press

A force of perhaps half-hundred Superfortresses set off "heavy explosions in military installations" in a new strike at Iwo Jima, enemy island midway between Japan and Saipan, the Twentieth Airforce announced yesterday.

All of the B-29s returned to their base in the Marianas after encountering only light and inaccurate antiaircraft fire and no fighter plane opposition, a communique said. This latter reference suggested that more than two weeks of air attacks on the island is reducing its defenses to the point where no serious opposition can be turned on Army and Navy planes visiting Iwo Jima.

This latest attack, which was the second from B-29s, carried well into the third week a continuing bombardment of the vitally strategic position by Army and Navy bombers an dsurface ships.

Army B-24 Liberators and Navy planes have pounded steadily on the enemy island since early in the month.

The apparent objective is to neutralize the Japanese base in the Volcano Island from which bombing attacks on B-29 fields have been launched.

Pacific Fleet headquarters reported yesterday that Army Liberators hit Iwo Jima on December 20 and 21 (west longitude—U. S. date) for the 14th and 15th consecutive days of raids.

The December 3 strike against the island was of concentrated character, with B-29s, Liberators, Navy planes and surface ships throwing explosives onto the island at various times during the day.

In Ancient Bethlehem

Miracle of Ages Reenacted As Soldiers Kneel in Homage

Bethelehem, Dec. 24 (AP).—The miracle of the ages was reenacted in Bethlehem tonight and symbolically a babe was born again in the very grotto where nearly 2000 years ago Christ was born.

Just as then, men knelt in adoration, with their heads turned toward the spot where the manger once was.

Manger Square was packed tightly with men in uniform—some flown here from the battlefields of France and Italy only yesterday. For miles the road from Jerusalem was lined with military cars and trucks, and at first glance it was like passing a convoy moving up to battle.

Bethlehem glowed with a soft light like a golden crown on the dark hills of Judea.

Here and there were the white burnooses and red tarbooshes of Moslems and the brocaded costumes of Palestinian women.

The pilgrims waited patiently in the square fronting the Church of the Nativity until His Beatitude, the Latin Patriarch, came from Jerusalem.

His procession passed through the historic Jaffa Gate and along the Roman Road past the hill of Tantur and the remains of Herod's palace and the tomb of Rachel.

At Rachel's tomb the procession halted and the mayor of Bethlehem extended the ancient greeting to the Latin Patriarch. Then it continued to Manger Square. The inclosure was lined with hundreds of priests and acolytes in white stoles. The strains of a Latin hymn rose toward the sky and his Beatitude, wearing the purple robe, entered the Latin Church of St. Catherine which adjoins the Church of the Nativity, and the ceremony of celebrating the Christ Child's birth had begun.

It continued throughout the

See BETHLEHEM, Page 2, Col. 5.

Soviets Slash Budapest Escape Route

Reds Sweep Around West Side of Capital; Second Force Is 98 Miles From Vienna

London, Dec. 24 (AP).—One Red Army swept 25 miles around Budapest's western side today, cutting the enemy's main escape route 14 miles from the Hungarian capital and virtually trapping the besieged Berman-Hungarian garrison, as another Army slashed 17 miles inside western Slovakia to within 98 miles of Vienna, capital of Austria.

Only a 17-mile gap remains to be closed before Budapest is entirely encircled, and the two powerful Russian armies were sweeping on toward Austria on both sides of the big Danube Bend, Moscow announced.

2 Strongholds Fall

Toppling the major strongholds of Szekesfehervar and Bicske, 32 miles southwest and 14 miles west of Budapest, Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army drove to within 68 miles of the Austrian frontier, and cut to within seven miles southwest of Budapest's city limits after breaking through German lines on a 55-mile front in a three-day offensive between Lake Balaton and the capital.

Simultaneously, Marshal Rodio Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army, racing westward above the Danube at a point 50 miles northwest of Budapest, captured the rail junction of Leva (Levice), only 65 miles east of Bratislava, Slovak capital, and 98 miles from Vienna.

In this area the Russians were swarming ahead in two directions, northwestward and westward toward Bratislava and Vienna and northard into the Slovak Mountains in an effort to trap scores of thousands of Germans fighting far to the eaest in the exposed Losong-Kassa sectors.

Trap 30 Nazi Divisions

Simultaneously Berlin announced that a big Soviet winter offensive had raored through its fifth day in western Latvia, where 30 German divisions are trapped, and German radio commentators also told their listeners not to be surprised if the entire Eastern Front erupts into action.

Berlin said Tolbukhin was using 18 rifle divisions and 5 mechanized corps in a simultaneous investment of Budapest and a drive toward Vienna, and the Germans were reported pressing more and more civilians into fortification work on the approaches to the Austrian capital.

2 Army Deserters Hitchhike From Leyte to Omaha

Omaha, Nebr., Dec. 24 (INS).—Two homesick Army privates who reportedly deserted the armed forces on Leyte Island in the Philippines and hitchhiked almost halfway round the world in the hopes of being home for Christmas were in custody of military police in Omaha tonight.

Maj. Herbert L. Lindstrom, provost marshal, identified the men as Pvt. Joe Sholkoff, 23, of New York City, and Pvt. John M. Anderson, 20, of Toledo, Ohio. They were apprehended in Lincoln, Nebr., while wearing civilian clothes.

The two soliders, Major Lindstrom said, made the 9600-mile trip from the Philippines via Australia. They used three planes and a former luxury liner in reaching the United States, traveling as stowaways on a cargo plane from Australia to Honolulu and hiding aboard the liner from there to the United States.

But Their Trip Was Necessary

London, Dec. 24 (AP).—Memo for "A" card holders:

The American Fortresses and Liberators which hit the Germans today used 4,250,000 gallons of gasoline.

U. S. Equipment Overrun by the Germans

Signal Corps radio telephoto.

CAPTURED ENEMY FILM—These pictures, taken from a roll of captured Nazi film, show (at top) Von Rundstedt's men advancing amid burning American vehicles in the breakthrough into Belgium, and (below) enemy soldiers, heavily clothed against the cold, inspecting other captured equipment

D.C. Man Helps Save 82 Yanks Trapped 7 Days

Robert C. Wilson

With American Troops on the German Border, Dec. 24 (AP).—Seventy-nine infantrymen and three officers of the U. S. Seventh Army gave thanks today for "the biggest Christmas present we ever got" after their rescue from the Siegfried Line town of Bundenthal where they had been trapped for seven days.

The rescue was made possible by the heroism of two Indiana boys who slipped through the German lines Friday and found the route by which the rescue troops, including one Washingtonian, could pick their way past pillboxes and guide the gaunt, unshaven and hungry men, among them another Washington man, back to safety.

This was done yesterday after a 1000-round artillery barrage which kept the Germans' heads down during the breakout.

4 Didn't Come Back

Bodies of four who didn't come back are in the basements of houses into which the G. I.'s fought their way December 17.

Some of the trapped troops lived most of the week on cold potatoes, sharing one loaf of bread among 24 men. Others situated more fortunately had rabbit stew, chicken, fresh bread baked by a civilian baker and cookies raided from a German grocery.

Germans were so close that they tossed hand grenades in the windows and pounded the houses with artillery, mortars and machine guns—but they apparently were asleep when the Yanks slipped out last night.

He Eats the Duck

Making the break back to the American lines to bring the rescue party were Pvt. Allan Guriel, New Goshen, Ind., and Sergt. William Alter, St. Paul, Ind.

Pvt. George White, Washington, Pa., complained he was "given

See RESCUE, Page 2, Column 8.

Manchester Hit, Berlin Says

Britain Admits Robot Bombs Take Toll in North England

London, Dec. 24. (U.P.)—More than six months after flying bombs first began landing in southern England, Britain announced officially today that enemy "aerial activity" had spread to northern England, and Berlin asserted that Manchester, in the British Midlands 170 miles north of London, had been brought under the fire of "long range weapons."

An announcement of the Home Security Ministry said that from dawn Saturday up to 7 a. m. Sunday there was enemy air activity directed against northern and southern England and that damage and casualties have been reported.

It was the first time that the phrase "northern England" has been used since official statements on enemy attacks against the British Isles have been issued in their present form.

At one area in North England recently some persons were killed and a number injured, it may now be disclosed. Observers said numbers of bombs were projected under conditions which made interception difficult.

Recent reports of robot bombs or air torpedoes passing over Sweden have suggested that the Nazis are making new experiments with long-range weapons. One theory suggested in Stockholm is that the missiles came from a plateau in the Norwegian mountains inland from Bergen, more than 500 miles from the nearest point in Britain.

Pre-Dec. 1 Stamps Canceled

Tighter Rationing Program Made Effective Tomorrow

BULLETIN

By the Associated Press

A greatly expanded food-rationing program, again including canned vegetables, will become effective tomorrow.

Price Administrator Chester Bowles announced this last night, saying the tighter controls are necessary to assure fairer distribution of "small supplies."

The changes—beginning at 12:01 a. m. tomorrow—include a rise in the red point value of butter from 20 to 24 points a pound; cancellation of all red and blue stamps which became good before the first of ecember, and cancellation of all sugar stamps and home canning certificates except No. 34.

(About 85 per cent of all meats will be placed under rationing beginning ecember 31.

By the United Press

The Office of Price Administration, in returning point-free meats and canned vegetables to the ration list on January 1, will invalidate all ratio points issued prior to December 1, the American Institute of Food reported last night.

It added in its current "Washington Food Report" that the agency will cancel all sugar stamps validated before December 1 "in an effort to straighten out the sugar rationing mess."

OPA officials declined commet on the article but they are known to be preparing new ration charts which will put low-grade meats, canned vegetables and jams, jellies and preserves back on the point list.

Reports also are curret that the Government will order a sales freeze on all canned goods to prevent a buying rush by hoarders when stores reopen tomorrow.

The institute said that lard also may be returned to rationing and that the ration value of evaporated

See FOOD, Page 2, Column 5.

Americans Drive Ahead In Northern Luxembourg

116 More Enemy Planes Destroyed; Offensive Held to Virtual Standstill

Paris, Dec. 24 (AP).—The German offensive had been held virtually to a standstill for 48 hours up to late Saturday, Allied supreme headquarters disclosed tonight, and American counterattacks against the enemy's southern flank gained ground in four sectors.

A front dispatch covering fighting up to late Saturday morning declared American forces storming Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt's southern flank had gouged out gains along a 20-mile front in northern Luxembourg, lifting the menace to that iny duchy's capital.

The second crisp clear flying day in a row Sunday loosed the vengeful fury of Allied air might and more than 7000 planes—the greatest battle force ever sent aloft—lashed the enemy's front and traffic-jammed rear zones with a hurricane of destruction.

Nazis Lose 116 More Planes

The German air force lost 116 planes trying to stop this aerial jiggernaut, a staggering loss of 294 planes in two days. Since the primary objectives were German ground forces and fieldlines, some planes even dodged combat in order to reach their front-line targets.

The German wedges in Belgium and Luxembourg appeared to be contained, at least for the moment, with the Germans advancing Saturday no more than a mile at any point.

A front dispatch reported that up to late Saturday morning, American attacks from the south had driven the Germans almost across the border 17 miles northeast of the city of Luxembourg, and had cleared half of Martelange, 21 miles northwest of the capital, where the Germans had cut the vital Bastogne-Arlon highway.

Fighting Rages Near Rambrouch

Heavy fighting raged near Rambrougch, 5 miles east of Martelange.

Sixteen miles due north of the City of Luxembough, American lines were advanced 1 to 2 miles north of Grosbous. (This would indicate a possible 9-mile advance, since the day before the Americans had ben operating in the area of Mersch, 7 miles south of Grosbous.)

Other gains were announced in an area 5 miles west anad northwest of Diekirch, or about 18 or 19 miles north of Luxembourg.

Yet another force hammered on east of Diekirch, apparently around Berdorf, 17 miles northeast of Luxembourg and less than a mile and a half from the German border.

While the greatest German gain reported up to noon yesterday was about a mile, Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt now may have thrown his second punch from positions he has won 20 miles from the Meuse and 23 miles from the Sedan gate to France. He has been marshaling strength for this blow for a day or two.

Berlin Admits Advances

(Berlin radio said Sunday night that "the situation of the greater winter battle in the Ardennes has not changed decisively during the las 24 hours," the period covered by the Allied blackout, but admitted that American forces had carved out advances on the southern flank.)

The focus of the fighting swung abruptly Caturday to the enemy's southern flank below Bastogne, where the strength of an American assault forced the Germans to let up their siege of that strategic highway center and rush forces south to meet it.

The supreme headquarters security blackout—now shortened to 24 hours—barred reports of progress since then and masked the nature of the Allied countermeasures being taken.

The American wall on both flanks was firm and it was regarded as

See WAR, Page 2, Column 3.

Today's Index

	Page		Page
Columnists	4, 5	Marquis Childs	3
Crossword	5	Nelson Bell	5
Death Notices	10	Radio	9
Editorials	4	Shirley Povich	6
Federal Diary	10	Sports	6, 7
Leonard Lyons	5	Town Talk	8
Mary Haworth	8	Women's Page	3

Greatest Air Fleet Of War Hits Nazis

War Sidelights

Disgusted Nazi Leader Surrenders

With U. S. Forces on the Western Front, Dec. 23. (Delayed). (U.P.).—A high-ranking commander of German parachute troops dropped behind Allied lines has surrendered, reportedly explaining that he had become disgusted upon finding American soldiers held a town after the German radio said the Nazi columns had captured it, a staff officer said today.

It was believed the group the Nazi officer had commanded virtually was wiped out. Large numbers surrendered and others were killed.

The commander was said to have criticized the German parachute operations in the current offensive on the grounds that they were badly planned.

7000 Planes Batter Germans' Winter Offensive

London (Monday), Dec. 25 (AP).—Seven thousand Allied planes—the mightiest display of crushing aerial power in the history of armed conflict—were hurled Sunday at the German winter offensive in thousands of sorties that may exceed the 13,000 flown on D-Day.

The German air force lost at least 116 planes trying to protect its ground forces and lifelines from the storm of explosives, running its two-day losses to 294 planes.

British night bombers carried the all-out offensive into Christmas Eve, strikking railyards at Cologne and an enemy airfield at Bonn.

In a single wave, a record force of 2000 American Flying Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by more than 1000 fighters, poured down more than 11,000 tons of bombs on German air bases and supply lines feeding Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt's winter drive in Belgium.

This massive armada of U. S. Eighth Air Force planes was the greatest single fleet of bombers ever put into the air. Its escort of Thunderbolts and Mustangs accounted for at least 70 of the fighter kills.

The RAF by daulight dispatched more than 500 heavy Lancaster and Halifax bombers, with as many Spitfires and Mustangs, in an attack on two Nazi air bases in the Ruhr at Essen and usseldorf.

Reports from the caninent said fighters and medium bombers based in France, Holland and Belgium took a terrific toll.

The Nineteenth Tactical Air Force destroyed more than 350 Nazi motor vehicles.

Silver Spring Infant Burned Fatally in Crib

Tragedy stalked the Silver Spring (Md.) home of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Smith, jr., for the second time in two years yesterday to snuff out the life of the 4-month-old son, Gordon Carlisle. The father is a Washington fireman stationed at No. 12 Truck Company, Wisconsin ave. and Warren st. nw.

The child was burned in his crib while his mother was washing in the basement of their home, 9703 Bristol ave., and the father had gone to Woodside Methodist Church with another son, Jack.

Frank E. Fitzpatrick, 9701 Bristol ave., a neighbor, who saw flames in the bedrom of the Smith cottage about 9 a. m., ran to notify Mrs. Smith, while his daughter, Mrs. William Hewitt, tried to rescue the baby.

Overcome by smoke, Mrs. Hewitt was carried from the house by her father, who then groped through smoke to the crib and carried out the infant.

The Silver Spring Rescue Squad took the mother and baby to the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital, where the child died an hour later.

Detective Corporal James Anderson and Montgomery County Policemen Carl Hurlebaus and Roy Wrenn, though unable to determine the cause of the fire, which only slightly damaged the house, were satisfied last night there was no negligence. Dr. Emil G. Bauersfeld, acting county medical examiner, withheld a certificate pending completion of an investigation.

Murray Seen Heading World Union Setup

By the United Press

President Philip Murray of the Congress of Industrial Organizations is expected to be chosen to head the new World Trade Union Congress to be organized at meetings beginning February 6, in London.

Assured of the support of the other 11 members of the CIO delegation, Murray is understood to be regarded favorably by British and Russian trade unionists who attended preliminary meeting in London.

It is expected his candidacy will be indorsed by President Harry W. Fraser of the Order of Railway Conductors, who will represent this country's big independent rail labor unions.

Presidents William Green of the American Federation of Labor and John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers, Murray's two bitter enemies, have rejected invitations to the conference.

Murray urged the conference and is slated to make the keynote speech.

While the AFL will not be represented at the February 6 meeting, its international representative, Robert Watt, is expected to be in London as an unofficial observer, remaining over after meetings of the international labor organization and the International Federation of Trades Unions, in which the only American labor group is the AFL. The AFL has opposed admission of the CIO to both groups.

Woman Narrowly Escapes Car in Falling on Street

Mrs. Josephine P. Farris, 25, a restaurant employe and mother of two children, missed her footing on her way home from work Friday night, fell to the street, fractured one leg in two places, fainted and narrowly escaped being run over by a passing automobile, police reported yesterday.

Traffic Division Patrolman L. A. Hartnett, of the Accident Investigation Unit, said Mrs. Farris had left her work in the 1400 block of Rhode Island ave. ne. to go to her home 1809 Hamlin st. ne. about three blocks away, when she fell.

Four unidentified Army officers reported to relatives after taking Mrs. Farris home, that their car was nearly wrecked when the driver turned the wheel to avoid striking the injured woman, whom he thought was a log in the roadway. Mrs. Farris is recovering at Garfield Hospital.

Congress Sets New Low for Bills Studied

By the Associated Press

The Seventy-eighth Congress set a new record low for the amount of legislation considered, but also enacted a high proportion.

Chief House Bill Clerk William J. McDermott said yesterday the late Congress enacted one out of every eight bills introduced, compared to one out of nine for the Seventy-seventh Congress.

There were 6635 bills of all kinds introduced in the House and 2217 in the Senate, 989 of which now are laws. One-half were so-called "private" bills involving individuals' claims against the Government.

By comparison, the Seventy-seventh Congress enacted 1485 public and private laws from some 12,000 bills introduced.

For the past 25 years, McDermott said, the average number of bills considered at each session is above 15,000, the Sixty-first Congress of 1909 and 1910 setting the all-time high record with 35,000.

Highest batting average for bills enacted was in the Fifty-ninth Congress when 6940 out of 30,000 bills were enacted. Lowest was the Sixty-fifth, which enacted 508 out of 16,239 offered in the House alone.

Budget Estimates To Be Increased On European War

By International News Service

Rep. Clarence Cannon (Dem. D. Mo.), chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said Saturday that budget estimates of new appropriations required by the war were being revised upward as a result of the German counter-offensive on the Western Front.

"So far as appropriations not directly connected with the war are concerned," he said, "we intend to maintain a close scrutiny of them and to hold them down to a minimum.

"Of course, there are certain fixed obligations that cannot be trimmed, such as interest on the public debt. Expenditures by the Veterans' Administration will show an increase."

Pickets Invade Ward Store, Are Expelled by Police

Detroit, Dec. 24 (INS).—Demonstrating pickets invaded Montgomery Wards' Royal Oak store yesterday and were expelled by State troopers after allegedly damaging merchandise and intimidating customers.

One person was reported injured but no arrests were made. The Royal Oak store and three other strike-bound Ward Detroit area stores remained open.

Company spokesmen charged that nearly a hundred demonstrators upset merchandise, jostled customers and attempted to coerce "loyal" employes.

Radio Reporters Escape As Nazi Blast Kills 4 Men

New York, Dec. 24 (AP).—George Hicks, chief correspondent of the Blue network in the European theater, said in a broadcast today four men were killed and that he and other newsmen narrowly escaped death when the front of a house was blown in during a German bombing and strafing attack yesterday.

Hicks said he received a small cut on the left cheek and that debris fell across the back of James Cassidy, another radio correspondent.

Christmas Tragedy Survivors

Photo by Henry Marschalk.

"WE'LL STICK TOGETHER!"—DeWitt Clinton Moore, 15 (right), and brother William, 14, who escaped the fire at 618 Sheridan st. nw., that caused the death of their parents and a younger brother and sister early yesterday morning. "We've always been buddies, and now we'll be better pals than ever," said Clint.

WAR

From Page 1

likely that flanking blows from one side or the other had a strong bearing on the slackened impetus of the westward push, which at one point was 17 miles from the French border.

(The German communique said that its units ranged "far beyond the Ourthe River on the western front yesterday," which runs from 20 to 30 miles east of the Meuse.)

Well in Forest's Heart

The enemy had pounded his way Forest—through which he swept into the hilly heart of the Ardennes far more rapidly in 1940—where tank and mechanized movement are difficult except along main roads.

The doughboys were backed into stronger defense positions, and the country ahead of Von Runstedt is difficult all the way to the Meuse.

On the northern flank, merican troops struck out anew near Maubach, 6 miles south of Duren, and made some gains on this Roer River front, while the Monscau-Malmedy shoulder held firm against local enemy thrusts.

The Stavelot wedge remained stabilized. Supreme headquarters disclosed that Saturday's announcement that Stavelot was lost was in error. The town still was in American hands, although there had been seesaw fighting at the outskirts.

The town of St. Vith, at the apex of the American triangle which splits the two German drives, was lost in a Thursday night attack.

Yanks Hold Ridges

The doughboys, backed by strong forces of tanks, held to wooded ridges to the west, which have kept the Stavelot salient divided from the big Bastogne wedge to the south.

The Americans in Bastogne still held out, were supplied from the air, and were called on to fend off only minor stabs Saturday.

The German thrusts which carried to Marche, 20 miles from the Meuse and 22 miles northwest of Bastogne; to St. Hubert, 15 miles west of Bastogne; and to Libramont, eight miles south of St. Hubert and 23 miles from Sedan, either had lost their impetus or had bogged down in the tough doughboy defense.

The only reported German gain carried only about a mile in the vicinity of Rosieres, 8 miles southwest of Bastogne.

Fire on Third Army Lines

Well to the north of the front, the Germans sent patrol after patrol into the British Canadian Twenty-first Army group positions all the way from 'S Hertogenbosch to Maeseyck in eastenr Holland, apparently looking for information on any changes in Allied troop dispositions.

On the U. S. Third Army front, the Germans threw heavy concentrations of artillery into the American lines near Saarlautern, in the western Saarland. There was little change in battle lines.

To the east the Germans tried a counterattack in some force at dawn this morning near Bitche—Maginot Line fortress—but the thrust was broken up.

The French drive 4 miles northwest of Colmar in southern Alsace made little progress.

Hope for Skating On Ice Fades Here As Mercury Rises

Hope of skating on ponds in the Washington area today began to fade yesterday as the temperature rose from a low of 31 degrees to 38. The forecaster predicted cloudy skies today, with light winds and "warmer in the afternoon."

The elements have been "teasing us for three or four days," the weather man said, avoiding any more definite prophecy about the probability of rain today.

Last Christmas the District suffered a paralyzing storm of sleet and freezing rain.

Virginia Carillon Concert Set Today

Richmond, Va., Dec. 24 (AP).—The 66 bells of Virginia's War Memorial Carillon will be heard throughout the State in a concert over 12 radio stations beginning at 9 a. m. Monday. The Virginia Conservation Commission arranged the 15-minute broadcast.

Gas Delivery To Stations Stepped Up

Gasoline flowed into service station tanks yesterday as distributors' trucks, taking advantage of the preholiday traffic lull, stepped up deliveries to retail outlets.

Most service stations were closed but at the few where motorists were being served, lines of cars gathered awaiting refueling.

From early yesterday morning until a late hour in the afternoon a steady stream of autos rolled up to the pumps at the Plaza Service Station, first block of Massachusetts ave. nw.

Independent taxi drivers, dependent upon the same sources as private motorists for their fuel, reported greater quantities of fuel available.

A Gulf Oil Co. station at 12th and Franklin sts. ne. was selling from 5 to 10 gallons to taxis, one driver reported. A Cities Service station and an Esso dealer in the 2900 block of M st. nw., two of the few stations in the District remaining open all night, were said to be good sources of supply by Norman W. Nickens, an independent cabbie.

Independent taxicabs also were being supplied at the Blue Light Cab gas station, North Capitol and G sts. ne.

Wholesalers' tank trucks were seen making deliveries at a number of Connecticut ave. service stations by this reporter yesterday afternoon. Tank trucks also were observed pumping the hard-to-get fuel into retailers' tanks on New Jersey and Massachusetts aves. nw.

Distributors interviewed were unanimous in assuring that motorists will be able to secure gas at those stations which are open for business today. Deliveries are being expedited, they asserted and most retailers will have gas adequate for normal needs tomorrow.

Acacia Employes Give Pianos, Gifts To Sick, Wounded

Employes of the Acacia Mutual Life Insurance Co. Saturday presented to Walter Reed Hospital a portable piano and several Christmas boxes in ceremonies at the Red Cross Recreational Field House.

Made possible by voluntary contributions, gifts were also sent to the Naval Hospital at Bethesda, Md. St. Elizabeths Hospital also will receive a portable piano from the firm's employes.

BETHLEHEM

From Page 1

afternoon and early evening in successive rituals.

Climax at Midnight

The high pontificial mass began at 10 o'clock, leading gradually toward its climax at midnight. Sacred music flower through the candle-filled tchurch with the altar ablaze with light.

At the midnight hour, the silver voices of the great bells of Bethlehem rang out. This was the moment all Christendom awaited.

On the altar a babe lay revealed, a shining simulacrum of the Christchild. The miracle was reenecated.

The ancient stone walls of the church quivered with the mighty "hallelujahs" and waves of music broke against its heavy columns—"glory Be to God in the Highest."

The patriarch took the symbol of the Child in his arms and the worshippers knelt in joy and humility."

Placed Upon Silver Star

The majestic procession wound through the church wiht the flames of the candles glinting and shimmering on the robes of the prelates. The acolytes and choirboys came first, followed by high dignitaries of the church, and last the patriarch himself, carrying the representation of the Son of God.

They went down a short flight of stone steps toward the grotto where Mary had been and upon which the light of the guiding star had fallen.

Candles flickered there just as tthey might have done on that night in the past. Beneath there is a silver star and there the patriarch placed the babe.

Then in the final scene of this drama the child was lifted and placed gently where the manger once stood.

The story wasended.

Outside it turned cold and occasional spatters of rain hissed against the worn walls of Bethlehem.

FOOD

From Page 1

milk will be icreased to 1½ points a can. It estimated that values on caned goods will average 20 points a can.

"No change in butter is contemplated," it added. The institute said the ration changes will become effective at midnight, Sunday, December 31.

It said that OPA, by invalidating back ration coupons, in effect will be "starting with a clean slate" to restore rationing to a "sound basis."

"Consumers who have not spent their points will probably grumble," it added, "but restoring of general rationing on a sound basis would be impossible if all except current stamps were not invalidated. Spending of hoarded stamps would make a farce of new point values."

Invalidation of old sugar stamps, it said, "seems to be the only way out of a distressing sugar-rationing situation."

TREE

From Page 1

American fighting men overseas, he said "the tide of battle has turned slowly but inexorably against those who sought to destroy civilization."

He added "on this Christmas day, we cannot yet say when uor victory will come. Our enemies still fight fanatically. But they know that they and their evil works are doomed."

BEAR

From Page 1

to drink." The brook runs through the estate of Mrs. Anne Archbold, on which Robert Leonard runs a farm.

Following tracks over the snow-covered ground, the combined force of Leonards and police sighted their quarry—a lost and frightened chow dog. Whimpering, it trotted toward the hunting party, wagging his tail in greeting. The "bear" was claimed by Howard Jones, 2910 M st. nw.

Judge Can Hardly Wait To Try Certain Thieves

Leonardtown, Md., Dec. 24 (AP).—Judge J. Ralph Abell of St. Mary's County is waiting for police to catch up with some car thieves—he said today it would provide him with the greatest pleasure to try them in his court—for they stole his own car.

Grin and Bear It

By Lichty

"We thank Thee, for the abundance of vitamins A to K, riboflavin, minerals—we now beseech Thee for more butter, chocolate syrup and cigarettes."

Text of Presidents' Address

Following is the text of President Roosevelt's Christmas Eve brpadcast:

It is not easy to say "Merry Christmas" to you, my fellow Americans, in this time of destructive war. Nor can one lightly say "Merry Christmas" tonight to our armed forces at their battle stations all over the world—or to our allies who fight by their side.

Here, at home, we will celebrate this Christmas Day in our traditional American way—because of its deep spiritual meaning to us; and because we want our youngest generation to grow up knowing the significance of this tradition and the story of the coming of the immortal Prince of Peace and Good Will. But, in perhaps every home in the United States, sad and anxious thoughts will be continually with the millions of our loved ones who are suffering hardships and misery, and who are risking their very lives to preserve for us and for all mankind, the fruits of His teachings and the foundations of civilization itself.

Christmas Spirit Is With Men

The Christmas spirit lives tonight in the bitter cold of the front lines in Europe and in the heat of the jungles and swamps of Burma and the Pacific Islands. Even the roar of our bombers and fighters in the air and the guns of our ships at sea will not drown out the messages of Christmas which come to the hearts of our fighting men. The thoughts of these men tonight will turn to us here at home around our Christmas trees, surrounded by our children and granddehildren and their Christmas stockings and gifts—just as our own thoughts go out to them, tonight and every night, in their distant places.

We all know how anxious they are to be home with us, and they know how anxious we are to have them—and how determined every one of us is to make their day of home coming as early as possible. And—above all—they know the determination of all right thinking people and nations, that Christmases such as those that we have known in these years of world tragedy shall not come again to beset the souls of the children of God.

This generation has passed through many recent years of deep darkness, watching the spread of the poison of Hitlerism and Fascism in Europe—the growth of imperialism and militarism in Japan—the final clash of war all over the world. Then came the dark days of the fall of France, and the ruthless bombing of England, and the desperate battle of the Atlantic, and of Pearl Harbor and Corregidor and Singapore.

Day of Victory Still Unknown

Since then the prayers of good men and women and children the world over have been answered. The tide of battle has turned, slowly but inexorably, against those who sought to destroy civilization.

On this Christmas Day, we cannot yet say when our victory will come. Our enemies still fight fanatically. They still have reserves of men and military power. But, they themselves know that they and their evil works are doomed. We may hasten the day of that doom if we here at home continue to do our full share.

We pray that that day may come soon. We pray that until then, God will protect our gallant men and women in the uniforms of the United Nations—that He will receive into His infinite grace those who make their supreme sacrifice in the cause of righteousness and love of Him and His teachings.

We pray that with victory will come a new day of peace on earth in which all the nations of the earth will join together for all time. That is the spirit of Christmas, the Holy day. May that spirit live and grow throughout the world in all the years to eome.

POPE

From Page 1

nition of the principle of the unity of all nations and the family of peoples.

"Masses Easy Plaything"

To deny the losers the hope of being accepted into the family of nations, the Pontiff said, "would be thereverse of far-seeing wisdom. It would be to assume the grave responsibility of barring the way to a general liberation from all the disastrous consequences . . . of this gigantic cataclysm."

He declared that while the unity of mankind is essential for world reform and peace guarantees, each nation "must retain an equal right to its own sovereignty" within the international society.

"Only thus will the spirit of sane democracy be able to pervade the vast and thorny ground of foreign relations," the Pontiff said, asserting that wars will continue to be waged until the greater part of humanity cries out for a war against war.

Insisting that men should not be obliged to obey a government if they are not free to criticize it, he said "the masses are an easy plaything in the hands of anyone who exploits their instincts and impressions, ready to follow in turn, today this flag, tomorrow another." Such men, he added, "are the capital enemy of true democracy and of its ideal of liberty and equality."

Declaring that if aggressors feel they will be punished by the whole world, a new world will arise out of the darkness, the papal leader called for economic and military sanctions against such aggressors within the framework of justice.

In his speech before the College of Cardinals he denounced those whom he claimed were trying, some by violence, to gain "key-points of influence" in a war born out of a "frenzy for novelty."

Calls for Sanctions

Asserting that very often so-called pure democracy hides the worst defects of democracy, he said democracy could be realized in monarchies as well as republics, provided national leaders "look upon themselves as representatives of the entire people and not as mandatories of the mob."

In speaking of the unidentified "enemy of Christ," he exclaimed, "what a spectacle is that of a democratic state left to the whims of the masses" in which "equality degenerates to the mechanical level of a colorless uniformity" wherein survivors are the deluded victims of those "who have known how to use the power of money and organization in order to secure a privileged position above others, and to have gained power."

Fears Civil War

"At a time when errors, widely spread here by violence, there in poor disguise, strive to secure the direction of public opinion and the keypoints of influence," the Pope said, "at a time when the word, liberty, independence and democracy are, for some trends of thought and ambition, only a means to chloroform the vigilance of those whose fidelity would never consciously allow itself to abandon or endanger the heritage left them by their whole Christian past; at a time when more deftly than ever the enemy of Christ and His Church, in the words of the Apostle of the Gentiles, tries to transform himself into an angel of light; at a time like this, the Church and its Supreme Pastor . . . have, more than ever, a duty to proclaim the truth . . . to open the eyes of men of good will, and especially the faithful . . . to sharpen the perspicacity of their judgment so as to discern in good time the errors which wear the disguise of truth in order that peoples may not have to experience too late, and at their cost, the bitter admonition of the prophet, 'You have ploughed wickedness, you have reaped iniquity, you have eaten the fruit of (the) lying.'"

Predicting that men, as well as frontiers, will have changed as a result of the war, he asked:

"Will poor mankind, after the looody scourge of a world war, have to suffer once again the poisonous bite of civil war?"

Church Stands Vigilant

"In ur days," he continued, "when the victims of error, innocent or guilty, have become legion; when the number of those who through suffering, misery, oppression, injustice, spiritual neglect and bad example have wandered from the straight path, has increased menacingly, a clear challenge ie heard by the church, her ministers and all he sons who are called to the apostolate of word and action."

He declared the church, "which spurns al lthe proud, narrow-mindednes sand vain-glorious self-righteousnes of the Pharisee with its haughty and disdainful aloofness," will stand "vigilant and protecting" when men will have changed "in their intellectual searchings, in the silent secrecy of their hearts, and in their aspirations and judgments in their sense of values and their tendencies."

Thus, the Pontiff proclaimed the Catholic Church and himself as the defender of "truth against the insidious wiles of prevalent errors."

"The souls of a large proportion of men," he said, "are pervaded by restless agitation such as perhaps has no parallel in any of the graver crises of history. It is agitation in which good and evil are strangely mingled to cretae and destroy, to set up order and to overthrow it.

"Deficient in Clarity"

"To this agitation there is associated in many minds an almost instinctive aversion to the past, a frenzy for novelty, which often is not fundamentally unsound or ignoble in its motives, but is frequently deficient in clarity and precision of purpose, as well as in discernment as to the choice of means, while with imprudent and precipitate optimism more is expected from novelty than it can give."

"With the disquiet which has pervaded the souls of the masses as a result of the war and its attendant trials, there has also entered the world a desire for reform and a powerful urge towards its ealization in one form or another," the Pontiff said, asking: "Will this realization follow a course of gradual, orderly evolution, or will it burst forth violently, blowing up the bridges between the past and the future?

"Will it overflow impetuously like a torrent that floods over its sides carrying before it the banks of justice and morality?"

Thanks to U. S. For Relief

At the close of his address to the world he thanked the United States for its war relief "despite the extraordinary difficulties of transport," and extended special thanks to President Roosevelt's personal envoy to the Vatican, Myron Taylor, for his work in Italy.

The Pope also thanked Spain, Ireland, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Italy, Lithuania, Peru, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary, Uruguay and Switzerland for their response to his appeals for relief. Germany was not among those mentioned.

Miklos Made Head Of Anti-German Regime in Hungary

London, Dec. 24 (AP).—A provisional Hungarian government with Col. Gen. Bela Miklos, former commander of the First Hungarian Army, as premier has been formed in the liberated portions of the country, the Moscow radio announced tonight.

"The cabinet includes leading Hungarian military men who have decided on an active fight against German forces," the broadcast said.

Others in the cabinet "are non-party public and leading scientific figures, former parliamentary deputies and representatives of the Hungarian Democratic parties."

After being ratified the new cabinet ministers issued an appeal to fight to break away "the only remaining satelite of Hitler," from the German orbit.

D. C. Man Wins Army's Highest Civilian Medal

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson last week issued an emblem for "exceptional civilian service"—the War Department's highest award for its non-military personnel—to E. E. Naylor, special assistant to Maj. Gen. A. H. Carter, the department's fiscal director and budget officer.

NAYLOR

The citation read: "For his outstanding achievements in the development and improvement of fiscal methods and procedures. Through his exceptional ability and exemplary performance of duty he has accomplished invaluable changes which have resulted in enormous savings of time and paper work."

In the Federal and District governments 25 years, Naylor has written several books on the Government's budget and contract procedures, his latest being "Federal Accounting."

From an $1100-a-year clerk in the Treasury Department he rose to a $8000-a-year job as administrative officer in the War Production Board which he resigned in June, 1942, to take his present position in the War Department. He left Federal service twice, once to serve as assistant director of District traffic, and again to serve as assistant auditor of the District under the late Daniel J. Donovan.

Naylor is a member of the District and Virginia bars, the Federal Bar Association, and is editor of the Federal Bar and Accounting Association News. He lives at 3101 Rittenhouse st. nw.

Red Cross to Send Greetings to All Prisoners of War

Christmas greetings from the International Red Cross will be sent to three million prisoners of war held by belligerent nations around the globe, and from the American Red Cross to all American POWs, it was announced Saturday at national headquarters.

The message reads:

"The International committee of the Red Cross wishes to convey at this holiday season, to all prisoners of war and civilian internees scattered throughout the war-torn world, a cordial message of comfort.

"The committee is well aware of your sorrows and anxieties. It also realizes how much more painful the absence from home becomes with the passing of time.

"With that thought in mind, the International Committee of the Red Cross and its 3000 collaborators in Switzerland and abroad devote all their energies to bring you help and assistance and they all send you, as well as the ones you love, their sincere good wishes."

Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross, said domestic radio stations, as well as shortwave transmitters, will carry the message to the German, Italian and Japanese prisoners of war held in this country.

Probe Promised Into News Lack Among U. S. Troops

Representative Brooks (D., La.) said Saturday the House Military Committee would investigate what he called a "complete blackout" of news to American fighting men abroad.

Brooks is a member of the committee, which recently completed a four-week inspection of European battlefront areas.

American troops abroad, he complained, are not getting enough news of the rest of the world and most of what they do get is old.

The French edition of the Army publication, Stars and Stripes, he said, gives "very little news" to the troops and "what news is given is highly colored." Some of the news it publishes, he added, is "a month or two old."

Exports for 1944 Top 13 Billion

The Commerce Department reported Saturday the Nation's exports thus far in 1944 total 13 billion, 147 million dollars—an increase of 15 per cent over last year's total for the same period. Approximately ten and one-half million dollars of the exports represent Lend-Lease shipments.

The department's Bureau of the Census reported at the same time that United States imports are running consistently higher for 1944 than in 1943.

RESCUE

From Page 1

away by a duck" in a tense moment in one skirmish.

"The German and the duck were across the street. I had the kraut in my sights when the Duck saw me and squawked," he said. "The German turned around, but one of our guys got him. I ran across, grabbed the duck, shot it and ate it."

The rescue patrol headed by Sergt. Warner Haynes, Taconite, Minn.,; Pfc. Edgar Ingleton, Flint, Mich.; Corpl. Raymon Dwyer, Elizageth, N. J., and Pvt. Joseph Long, 1360 B st. se., Washington, D. C., picked their way through trenches and pillboxes, to bring back the GI's, four of them on litters, and three German prisoners.

Pfc. Lewis Cross, of Washington, D. C., a veteran of Sicily, Salerno and Anzio, said "being cut off like that was worse than any of those other shows."

Liberators Attack Airfield at Manila

New Gains Held

Fifth Repels Nazi Thrusts In Italy

Rome, Dec. 24 (AP).—Fighting on a cold snow-covered battlefield south of Bologna, American Fifth Army troops have beaten off a sharp German counterattack and retained newly won gains east of Monte Belmonte, Allied headquartres announced today.

On the Adriatic sector in Italy, Canadians pushing along the Senio River, north of Highway Nine, advanced on both flanks despite stubborn German opposition.

South of the highway Polish patrols crossed the Senio and contacted the enemy in the area of Cuffiano, 3½ miles south of the Rimini-Bologna highway where a German salient slowly is being chopped away.

The Allied communique said other Eighth Army forces had captured Merlaschio, 3 miles north of recently captured Faenza, and half a mile north of Messano which fell yesterday.

Headquarters said Canadian patrols have reached Rossetto, 5 miles north of Bagnavacallo.

Fighter bombers smashed German communications throughout the Po Valley in strong support of the Allied ground forces. Fourteen German planes were destroyed. Earlier three night flying RAF Beaufighters knocked down three German Stukas in a brief aerial battle over northern Italy.

Infantry Advances On Palompon, Last Jap Leyte Stronghold

MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines (Monday), Dec. 25 (AP).—Liberator bombers smashed at Manila's Grace Park airfield on Luzon, while the American Seventy-seventh Division moved rapidly in on Palompon, last Japanese strongpoint on Leyte Island, a headquarters communique reported today.

And in strange contrast to the bloody battle, transport planes on a peaceful mission dropped Christmas greetings on liberated Filipinos, who waved in holiday spirit to the American airmen.

It was the second successive daylight strike by heavy bombers on Manila, and the enemy offered no interception. Sunday's communique reported that the bombers had hit Clark Field, big Manila airdrome, leaving it in partial ruins. On Saturday night Navy Hellcat fighters blasted Bulan airdrome below Manila.

Leyte Fight in Final Stage

Leyte's ground fighting appeared fast reaching a conclusion, as Japanese resistance steadily weakened in the face of aggressive attacks by the Seventy-seventh Division.

More than 13,000 enemy dead have been counted on Leyte in the last eight days, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said. Much material has been captured, including hundreds of trucks, quantities of tanks and heavy artillery weapons.

Although the war's tempo didn't slow for Christmas Eve, Filipino youngsters gathered in front of MacArthur's Headquarters and sang carols. MacArthur in a statement wished the Filipinos "all the blessings of Christmas and realization of their fervent hopes for the New Year."

13 Cargo Ships Sunk

American air units sank or damaged 13 more cargo vessels off Mindanao Saturday, the communique said.

In their strike at the Manila drome, the Liberators destroyed an estimated 25 enemy planes. Fighters strafed two Luzon fields without opposition.

In the earlier blow at Clark Field, MacArthur said that most of 100 grounded aircraft were wrecked or damaged. Huge fires were kindled among the installations.

Glenn Miller Missing Since Dec. 15 Flight

Paris, Dec. 24. (U.P.).—Maj. Glenn Miller, dance orchestra leader who has been conducting Army Air Force bands since he entered the service in October 1942, has been missing since December 15 while on a flight from England to Paris, Allied headquarters announced today.

MILLER

The announcement said: "Maj. Alton Glenn Miller, director of the famous U. S. Army Air Force Band which has been playing in Paris, is reported missing while on a flight from England to Paris. The plane in which he was a passenger left England December 15 and no trace of it has been found since its take-off.

"Miller, one of the outstanding orchestra leaders in the United States, lives in Tenafly, N. J., where his wife resides. No members of Miller's band were with him on the plane."

Miller's mother-in-law, Mrs. Fred W. Burger, disclosed at her home in Duarte, Calif., that her daughter told her on the telephone from the Miller home in Tenafly that her husband last wrote her on December 14, saying that he was flying to a new station in France the next day and that his band was to follow him a day later.

Miller was born in Clarinda, Iowa, but grew up in Colorado. He worked his way through the University of Colorado by playing trombone in a college band. Later he was trombonist with Ben Pollack's orchestra, in which Benny Goodman played the clarinet.

The Millers have two adopted children, 2-year-old Steven and a 3-month-old girl, Johnnie Dee, adopted only a month ago.

Milk Safeguards Are Extended to Allegany County

Cumberland, Md., Dec. 24 (AP).—An amendment to the State milk law, designed to protect the public against possible infection from undulant fever, will become effective on January 1, in Allegany County, the Health Department has announced.

Cumberland's milk supply has been guarded for several years by a similar regulation but under the amendment the protection will be extended to include the county.

Cumberland's milk supply has been guarded for several years by a similar regulation but under the amendment the protection will be extended to include the county.

The law will require that all dairy herds be tested before the milk is offered for sale and will make it compulsory to remove all diseased cows from the herd.

Late Shoppers Swamp Martinsburg Market

Martinsburg, W. Va., Dec. 24.—City Market here yesterday was so jammed with shoppers laying in supplies for the two-day holiday that traffic controls had to be established inside the market house and police in front of the building had to take control.

It was considered the largest crowd ever seen at the market. The buyers fairly well cleaned out the poultry, fruit and vegetable offerings by noon.

Gift Ship Reaches Sweden

New York, Dec. 24 (DNB).—A Swedish ship arrived at Goeteborg from Philadelphia today "with a cargo of Christmas parcels for Allied prisoners of war in Germany," according to the British radio as heard by CBS.

Japs Propose Aid for Korea And Formosa

By the Associated Press

Japan's government, possibly disturbed by unrest in Korea and Formosa, now plans to "improve the political treatment" of those subject areas.

Domei agency, in dispatches reported by the Federal Communications Commission, said Premier Gen. Kuniaki Koiso and his cabinet, "recognizing the necessity for an investigation of a new policy," had created a government committee to devise "reform" measures.

The aim, it was announced, would be to "elevate their status" in order to make the Koreans and Formosans "conscious of the fact that they, too, are citizens" of the Japanese empire.

Koiso himself will head the committee, assisted by Home Minister Shigeo Odachi and Minister of tate Without Portfolio Count Hideo Kadama. Members will be chosen from various ministries, both houses of the Imperial Diet and "scholars and other prominent men."

Domei said the cabinet Friday adopted measures intended to improve the lot of two million Koreans and 28,000 Formosans living in the Japanese home islands.

These measures included removal of travel restrictions between Japan and Korea, improvement of working and welfare conditions and opportunities for higher education.

Charles Markell Accepts Post on Md. Appeals Court

Annapolis, Md., Dec. 24 (AP).—Charles Markell, Baltimore lawyer, has accepted appointment by Governor O'Conor to membership on the reorganized Court of Appeals which will meet for the first time January 8.

In announcing Markell's acceptance of the position as the second Baltimore member of the court, O'Conor said yesterday, "this most favorable development is of far-heaching significance in that it will bring to our highest court the very best acallable legal practitioner."

Sixty-two-year-old Markell has been associated with the Baltimore law firm of Cook & Markell for the last 40 years.

Marine Pair Finds Yule Cheer 'Tin Can Style' In Quantico 'Home' Modeled by Ingenuity

MARINE INGENUITY—A ban on the manufacture of Christmas tree ornaments didn't stop this Marine couple—Sergt. and Corpl. (Mrs.) Anthony Valentino of Quantico from having a brightly decorated tree. Clipping the tops from tin cans, they made their own decorations and colored them with finger-nail polish

A barren fir tree in a 12 by 14 room became a brightly decorated Christmas tree yesterday—thanks to the same ingenuity that had made the room a "liveable" home for a Marine couple at Quantico.

Sergt. Anthony Valentino, 21, and his wife, Corpl. Margery (Pinky) Valentino, tried everyplace to buy decorations for the tree, without avail.

With a pair of tin sheers and a bunch of tops from tin cans, they fashioned intricate designs for the tree. Long strips of tin became icicles. The top from a gallon tomato can became a fantastic many-sided fan. The top from a small can of corn was converted into a blooming rose. Two bottles of scarlet fingernail polish did the rest.

And, oh, yes, chimes. Five lids from varying-sized cans, with a hole punched in their centers and strung on a string, became chimes.

The service couples' ingenuity carries over to the small room in which they live at the Marine Base. A box that formerly contained pork loin was covered wth gay creton material. Two tomato boxes were placed within it for shelves. Two cottage cheese buckets, made of wood, were stained a dark mahogany, overturned, and so became chairs.

Bed sheets became curtains—and attractive ones at that.

Pinky has been in the Corps for 14 months. Tony has been in for three years and served in the Pacific for 19 months.

Toughest Gains Still Lie Ahead, Nimitz Says

Guam, Dec. 24 (AP).—Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander of the Pacific Ocean areas, said today that "until we have bases close to the Japanese homeland, the rough part of the war will still be ahead of us."

The new five-star admiral made a surprise Christmas season visit to his forces in this forward area.

"I don't wish to give the impression the Japanese navy has been completely defeated. It has not, but it has not been able to stop our advance," he said.

"We hope and expect that our advance will continue.

"As the war progresses, the supply problem grows and the need for shipping increases.

Japs' Defenses Still Strong

"This all combines to make it a very major effort—to defeat the Japs."

Nimitz declined to make a prediction regarding the immediate future.

Japan's means for defending itself, the admiral said, haven't been reduced. "We may expect," he continued, "the bitterest kind of opposition from the air as we advance to the homeland and come within range of shore-based aircraft.

"They still have the capacity to deal damage with surface units but we hope to be on hand always with superior naval forces to meet that kind of a threat."

The Japanese navy hasn't attempted counterattacks since its defeat in the Second Battle of the Philippine Sea, Nimitz said, because it has been kept too busy by American forces in areas west of here.

Says Japs Whittled Down

"Vice Admiral Charles Lockwood with his submarines," the admiral added, "has effected attrition of their shipping. Admirals Halsey and Spruance in turn, with the main surface forces of carriers and land-based planes, have taken a tremendous toll of naval air strength and some of the army air strength they encountered in Ryukyu, Shoto, Formosa and the Philippines.

"They have whittled them down so that any (Japanese) expeditionary force toward the Marianas could only be carried out by utilizing nearly all of their resources."

Discussing the European war, Nimitz said the longer it lasts the longer it will be before the forces there can be released to fight in the Pacific.

Clarke County Exceeds Its War Bond Quotas

Berryville, Va., Dec. 24.—Clarke County War Finance Committee officials have announced that they have exceeded their Sixth War Loan Drive quotas. The overall quota was $320,000 including $45,000 in E bonds.

Saipan's B-29s May Bring Out Japanese Fleet

By the United Press

The Japanese fleet may be forced from hiding again—this time to deal with the mounting threat of Saipan-based Superfortress raids on Hirohito's war industries, naval experts said tonight.

The Japanese have made comparatively feeble attempts to knock out the B-29 bases on Saipan. The raids have been ineffective because long-range, land-based bombers were used and the Japs apparently are not equipped to send them over in force.

The experts see three possible countermoves available to the enemy, any or all of them involving the imperial fleet:

1. To neutralize the Saipan bases by carrier aircraft attacks.
2. Bombard the bases from surface warships.
3. Attempt a landing to retake Saipan.

Any of these steps would prove extremely hazardous but the situation is growing so desperate the Japanese may have to take a big gamble.

Republicans In Congress 'Go Own Way'

By Jack Bell
Associated Press Staff Writer

Republican congressional leaders, rejecting a proposal that they join with Gov. Thomas E. Dewey in a statement of party principles, will go on their own legislative way.

That way, it developed yesterday, will preclude announcement of any general legislative program for the new Congress and leave up to selected individuals the sponsorship of major measures.

Then, if all turns out well, the leaders may get together near the close of the next session, sum up what the Republicans have done and announce what they intend to do in the future.

Dewey's proposal that Senate and House chieftains join with him in signing now a statement of the party's aims wsa reported to have been rejected speedily by a group which met in New York.

One of those who attended said the principles outlined appeared to have been taken primarily from the Governor's campaign speeches. They were said to have included a general indorsement of the accomplishment of the Dumbarton Oaks International Security Conference.

One of the chief objections to issuing the statement at this time was that the congressional leaders were not in agreement on details of what ought to be said. It might take them a week to sit down and write a document to which all could subscribe, it was argued.

There was some thought among the legislators, also, that the principles Dewey had outlined indorsed too many Administration policies.

The Governor did not press the issue in the conference, laying aside his own proposal and expressing himself as willing to aid the members of Congress in carrying out their ideas.

Norway King Has Faith In '45 Christmas Victory

London, Dec. 24 (AP).—King Haakon of Norway tonight offered hope of early victory and liberation before another Christmas.

The sovereign said he had hoped to spend this Christmas at home but fate had willed otherwise.

He said all he could offer this Christmas was faith and confidence in the future and belief "we shall celebrate next Christmas together in a free country."

Hitler's Mind Full of Plans, Goebbels Says

New York, Dec. 24. (AP).—Nazi Propanganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels apologized profusely to the German people tonight for the failure of Adolf Hitler to address them directly on Christmas Eve and declared the Nazi dictator had planned and directed the current German offensive.

"The Fuehrer made me his spokesman to greet the 90 million Germans at home who stand behind him like a wall," Goebbels was quoted as saying in a Berlin radio broadcast heard by NBC and CBS monitors. "He brings his wishes to you on this Christmas Eve. All day—and in his sleepless nights—the Fuehrer's thoughts are always with you."

The propaganda minister said Hitler's mind "is clear and vigorous, contrary to the lies put out by propaganda of the Allies," the NBC monitored report said, adding: "He is determined to hit the enemy wherever and whenever possible, and never has the Fuehrer's mind been so full of plans, as has been shown by the new offensive."

As for Hitler's disappearnace from public view, Goebbels said, "The Fuehrer has a lot to say, but he will say it when he thinks the time is ripe," the reports said.

Alexandrians Call For More Blood Donors This Week

The Alexandria chapter of the Red Cross declared yesterday, through its spokesman, Mrs. Nelson C. Hyde of 3104 Valle dr., that donors are desperately needed to give blood during the two Alexandria donor days this coming week—Wednesday and Friday.

Her appeal was directed to business and professional workers and housewives in the business district. Donations in those groups, she said, have fallen behind while those working for railroads, war plants, and other industries "have gone over the top."

Quotas of 160 pints have been established for each of the two days. The mobile donor unit will be stationed at Grace Episcopal Church parish hall, 207 S. Patrick st., from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m., on each of the two days.

Appointments may be made by calling Mrs. Hyde.

Manslaughter Trial To Open Wednesday

Winchester, Va., Dec. 24.—Lee Riley Franklin of Stephens City, will go on trial in Corporation Court Wednesday on manslaughter charges growing out of the fatal knifing of Roy Sisk in October.

Franklin was a companion of Robert Collier, recently convicted of second degree murder in the slaying of Sisk and sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary.

Berkeley Springs Man Is Killed in Germany

Berkeley Springs, W. Va., Dec. 24. Mrs. Anna Whisner, this county, has been advised by the War Department that her son, Pfc. Clyde H. Whisner, was killed in action in Germany December 1. He entered the serxice from this county in November, 1942, and was serving with the infantry.

4 Die in Detroit Fire

Detroit, Dec. 24 (AP).—Four persons, including two sisters, were suffocated and burned to death today in a fire that swept through a rooming house. Five others were injured in the blaze.

Well Above 20 Billion Dollars, Sixth Loan on Way to Record

By the United Press

The Sixth War Loan is on the way to becoming the greatest single Government financing operation of the war, Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, jr., revealed tonight.

With returns still to come in, he said that sales have reache $20,360,000,000, less than 300 million short of the record Fifth War Loan subscription of $20,639,000,000, and more than six billion over the scheduled 14 billion dollar goal.

He disclosed that individual investors had boosted their purchases 10 million dollars over their five billion dollar goal and said he was "happy to announce that the important "E" bond quota of $2,500,000,000 will be oversubscribed."

Complete returns will be announced January 2 and will show that purchases of Government securities have poured more than 58 billion dollars into the war financing program in 1944 bond drives alone.

The Sixth War Loan drive was the third this year, and coming at the end of the year, when money is presumed to be scarce, the results are regarded as remarkable.

Relief Needs May Cut Army, Public Supplies

By the Associated Press

Further home front belt-tightening, and even possible revisions of military schemes, are the indicated results of an American-British review of the world supply situation.

British Minister of State Richard K. Law has been in Washington a week talking with War Secretary Stimson, Secretary of State Stettinius, President Roosevelt and Harry Hopkins.

The need for relief supplies in liberated Europe is so great, Law told them, that the whole picture of shipping and basic civilian supplies throughout the world must be reshaped.

The main bottleneck is shipping, which has been diverted to an increasing extent to the Pacific. The Present Philippines campaign will require even more. One official said the shortage is such that Allied military forces could not enter any new theater until shipping loosens up.

Some ships undoubtedly will be taken back from the South Atlantic and South American trade.

This might mean cutting down on U. S. imports, not directely needed for the war effort, such as coffee, sugar, liquors, wines and cheeses from Latin America.

While up to now, the Army has considered relief supplies secondary to fighting material, many officials are urging that food and fuel are equally essential to keep order behind the front.

Difficulties in reorganizing transportation in the liberated countries and obtaining equipment to get their own industries going have changed estimates of what is needed.

Exaggeration Noted in Drift To Peace Jobs

The Congress of Industrial Organizations charged yesterday that "the exodus" of war workers to peacetime jobs in a fictional creation of the press and certain Army officials but suggested that a program including higher wages would prevent such reports from becoming a reality.

The assertions were made in a published study by the CIO department of research and education of the "quit rate" in war plants. The rate represented the number of workers leaving their jobs voluntarily.

The CIO report stated that studies hadebeen made from May to October in 328 cases. Of the total, the organization declared, quit-rate declines were shown from May to Octobr, 1944, as compared with the same period of 1943 in 201 instances, while in 13 cases the quit-rate remained the same and in only 25 cases was a rise shown.

"We do not question the fact that in some instances workers are leaving their war jobs for jobs with peacetime security," said the CIO. "We do believe the seriousness of this problem has been greatly overstressed . . . The exodus of war workers to peacetime jobs is exposed as a creation of the press and certain Army officials.'"

The CIO expressed "sympathy" with the desire of the Government and the Army and Navy to prevent such an exodus from actually taking place and pointed out that "Labor has repeatedly suggested ways and means of doing so." It declared:

"The most obvious and desirable way is to provide workers with an assurance of adequate compensation during the period of postwar unemployment ,and above all to guarantee that there will be plenty of peacetime jobs to go around.

"Higher wages and improvement of working conditions would also selp—crying 'wolf' will not."

O'Conor Is Urged Not to Spend State's Surplus

Baltimore, Dec. 24. (AP).—Harry S. Middendorf of the Maryland Public Expenditure Council has urged Governor O'Conor to practice "realism" and "sound business" in handling the State's current surplus of over 8 million dollars.

In a letter to the State's chief executive, Middendorf said that tax rates have been "higher than necessary at this time," and that "war prosperity has expanded State revenue far in excess of that necessary to operate the State government efficiently."

Middendorf recommended that, to assure a continuation of Maryland's resentp sound financial standing after the war, no surplus be used for immediate expenditure.

Myersville Line

Jan. 2 Run Is Finale For Trolley

Frederick, Md., Dec. 24 (AP).—The last trolley on the Middletown-Myersville branch of the Hagerstown and Frederick Railway will be operated on January 2, R. Paul Smith, president of the Potomac Edison Co., announced. Buses will replace the streetcars.

Smith told the board of directors at their quarterly meeting that the 1945 rural construction company budget has been doubled. The budget will include an appropriation for preliminary engineering on installation of a new generating unit to cost $3,300,000.

Important proposed construction, he said, will include survey for a 66,000-volt transmission line from the Williamsport power plant to Frederick. Thirty-seven passenger buses for the Blue Ridge Transportation Co. are scheduled for purchase next year.

Smith said that in 1944 electric customers added totaled 2680. Passenger and freight volume have shown some decline as compared with the summer months, he added.

Va. Revenues Continue Rise In November

Richmond, Va., Dec. 24. (AP).—Virginia's revenues continued their upward trend in November, but expenditures also registered proportionate increases, the monthly report fo Henry G. Gilmer, the State comptroller, revealed today.

Total revenues for the month were $11,477,766.53, as compared with $8,976,387.43 for the corresponding month of 1943.

Expenditures aggregated $11,601,897.49, as compared with an outlay of $8,592,097.87 for the same month last year.

A precipitate slump in the payroll tax was noted in the report. This item of revenue lost more than $500,000 for the month as compared with the November, 1943, collections.

Revenues for the first five months of the current fiscal year, July to November, inclusive, aggregated $64,420,555.50, as compared with $48,114,676.52 for the corresponding period in 1943. Expenditures for the period were $51,740,215.03, as compared with the $47,230,615.63 spent in 1943.

Operations of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for November this year reflected a revenue of $4,829,306.10 as compared with $2,252,996.21 in November, 1943. Expenditures by the board were $4,157,054.88, as compared with $2,446,575.77 in November, 1943.

3 Highway Deaths Mark Early Va. Holiday Period

By the Associated Press

Three persons have been killed in highway accidents in Virginia since the Christmas holiday period began Saturday, boosting the total number of deaths in the State to 490.

T. B. King, 35, and Thomas Sims Hall, 32, both of LaCrosse, were killed in a crackup on U. S. Route 1 near South Hill Saturday night.

Philip R. Boswell, Norfolk for-hire car driver, was killed and four other persons injured when his cab was in a collision with another automobile in Norfolk early Sunday.

Fort Meade Donors Swamp Blood Bank

Fort George G. Meade, Md., Dec. 24 (AP).—Swamped by soldier and civilian donors, the Red Cross blood donor unit visiting here has been forced to schedule a return engagement for Thursday.

Nearly 400 volunteers from Army Service Forces units and civilian personnel on the post turned out last week for the blood bank's visit, 165 having been processed. The remainder of the volunteers will donate their blood on the return visit.

Georgia Electric Users Get Special Yule Gift

Atlanta, Dec. 24 (AP).—Along with Christmas cards, thousands of Georgians received notice today they will not have to pay their December light bills.

The State public service commission ordered the Georgia Power Co. to reduce its 1944 revenues by refunding more than $850,000 to residental customers and almost $50,000 to street lighting customers. The company is making the refund by canceling the December bill.

Charlottesville Seeks Fund To Buy Jefferson's Birthplace

Charlottesville, Va., Dec. 24.—A campaign will be launched immediately by the advertising and Thomas Jefferson Birthplace Memorial Park committee of the local chamber of commerce to raise $50,000 to assist in purchase of Shadwell Farm, birthplace of the founder of the University of Virginia, for its eventual development into a national shrine, it was announced today, following a meeting of chamber directors.

For the present, personal donations will be solicited. If the goal is not reached by the middle of February it is expected a general fund-raising campaign will be instituted.

The property, owned by the estate of the late Downing L. Smith, who died in 1924, will be acquired through the chamber of commerce, after which its future development will be placed in the hands of either the State Conservation Commission or the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, owners of Monticello.

Considerable interest has been exhibited by State and local leaders in the movement to develop the tract into a memorial park. Members of the State Conservation Commission, meeting last month with local leaders, indicated a willingness to consider development of the shrine.

Foundations of the original buildings on the property erected in the eighteenth century by Peter Jefferson, father of the author of the Declaration of Independence, were unearthed in 1941 under the direction of the memorial foundation, and plans call for the restoration of the tract to its former appearance.

Venezuela To Have Huge Oil Refinery

By Virginia Prewett

Caracas, Venezuela, Dec. 24.—Venezuela's last big aspiration for her oil industry will be realized years ahead of schedule when the Creole Oil Co., a subsidiary of Standard Oil of New Jersey and producer of 55 per cent of Venezuelan oil, starts work early in 1945 on a $40,000,000 refinery, capable of producing 45,000 barrels of finished products daily.

When completed this will be the largest refinery on the South American continent. Americans and Venezuelans alike agree that the step will finally solidify the position of the American oil industry in Venezuela.

Venezuelans have long resented seeing their oil go to the nearby Dutch islands for refining and the new 1943 petroleum law requires all companies to build plants here within five years after the war ends.

The Creole project, scheduled to begin in the near future, will be the first one.

Full details, disclosed to this correspondent today for the first time by Creole officials, include construction of a complete town, beginning in January. There will be modern housing, schools, hospitals and churches for 2000 workers to be employed in the big plant.

Surveys Near Conclusion

United States experts are now winding up surveys for a site and a decison is expected daily. The choice lies between Maracaibo where 70 per cent of Creol's oil is produced, Turiamo in central Venezuela, and Puerto La Cruz on the east coast.

Actual construction of the refineries will be the last of three steps in creating accord among the American operators, the Venezuelan government and labor.

First was the agreement made in March, 1943, increasing government royalties to 16 2-3 per cent; second was the two bolivar a day wage increase given the already highly paid oil workers a few weeks ago.

Americans here are keenly aware that Venezuela's tremendous oil resources are the nearest big reserve the United States can draw on in war or peace.

Not only does Venezuela's geographical position make her an easily protected nearby source for naval oil but her oil exports permit the country to import more United States goods per capita in peacetime than any Latin American nation.

Political Effect Important

The way the American oil companies get along here has a political effect through all Latin America. The trouble over oil in Mexico deepened the suspicion of United States capital all over the continent.

The picture as a whole has brightened in the past year and there is none of the tension this correspondent saw here in 1941. Both for the oil and labor, pay benefits are now received that are far above the general level.

Venezuelans have nervously watched the recent activities of United States oil interests in Iran and Saudi Arabia, but Diogenes Escalante, Venezuelan Ambassador to the United States, recently stated that no "Asiatic" competition should be feared. The Venezuelans also realize that in an uncertain future, her well-protected oil pools are a military asset for the United States.

Observers feel that production may decrease from a war peak to 800,000 barrles a day after Japan's defeat. But the Venezuelans expect new industrial activity throughout Latin America to absorb the large exports.

Creole and Mene Grande Gulf, a subsidiary, will put a new 16-inch 110-mile-long pipe line into operation in January. New leases for millions of acres have been taken out in the last six months.

New companies coming in include Richmond Oil, Standard of California, Phillips and Barnsdall, the last now going into foreign operation for the first time.

The new fields to be prospected are in central Venezuela, beginning 60 miles south of the capital and extending to the Orinoco River. Socony Vacuum and a Sinclair subsidiary have acquire vast new leases in the undeveloped area on the Andean slopes near Colombia.

Possible flies in the ointment are two-fold. Some observers believe that a future change in government policy could lead to labor difficulties. On the other hand, there has never been any sentiment for nationalization here.

Some also point out that every importing country wants to refine its own oil and question the wisdom of concentrating this refining here. This could severely restrict exports in time, causing a falling demand.

These fears, however, are generally considered unduly pessimistic.

Martinsburg Couple Has Golden Anniversary

Martinsburg, W. Va., Dec. 24.—Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Shirley were hosts to a number of their relatives and friends at their home at Darkesville recently, observing their golden wedding anniversary. Mrs. Shirley before marriage was Miss Vallie Braithwaite of this county. Her husband is a native of Greenspring, Va., and was a merchant in Darkesville for 30 years until retiring last September.

Winchester Firm Gives Bonds as Yule Gifts

Winchester, Va., Dec. 24.—W. H. Lawrence, jr., owner and manager of the Clearbrook Woolen Co., said yesterday $25 war bonds had been distributed for Christmas to the 88 employes of his company. Bonds also have been mailed to 28 former employes now in the services.

The Washington Post

Registered in U. S. Patent Office.

An Independent Newspaper
(Published every day in the year.)

Eugene Meyer, Editor and Publisher

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Monday, December 25, 1944

Procrustean Relief

It is difficult to follow the reasoning of the District Commissioners in deciding not to ask for a deficiency relief appropriation for the District. The estimated number of persons in need of public assistance during the year has proved to be inaccurate. An additional $70,000 is needed to provide the blind, the sick, the dependent children and other nonself-supporting groups with the basic necessities of life. Instead of seeking a deficiency appropriation, however, the Commissioners have decided to cut the allowance to these wards of the District by 10 per cent.

Procrustes followed a similar policy when he cut off the legs of his guests to make them fit his iron bed. We had supposed that, with the arbitrary statutory "ceilings" on relief payments removed, the District's policy would be adjusted to human needs instead of trying to adjust human needs to an arbitrary estimate made many months in advance of the situation to which it applies. Indeed, the Welfare Department did follow the more enlightened policy by reviewing all its relief cases and adjusting payments in each instance so as to give each family a standard budget covering minimum necessities. If that policy was right for the first half of the year, it is right also for the second half of the fiscal year, and the Commissioners ought to have courage enough to ask Congress for funds to keep it in operation.

Belgium's Gold

After three years of litigation the Bank of France has transferred to the National Bank of Belgium almost a quarter of a billion dollars in gold. "Return" is perhaps not the correct word, because the gold that was the cause of litigation is now lodged somewhere in Germany or has been spent by the Germans, whereas the gold transferred to the National Bank of Belgium has been held by the New York Federal Reserve Bank for account of the Bank of France. The Bank of France is taking a heavy loss in order to satisfy the Belgian claim and all it has to show as an offset is a claim against Germany and a promise from the National Bank of Belgium to help it recover the purloined gold. This gold was transferred for safekeeping to the Bank of France in the winter of 1939-40, shipped to Dakar when France was invaded, brought back to Marseilles by the Vichy government, and turned over to the Germans. In an effort to secure redress the National Bank of Belgium brought suit for damages in the New York courts in 1941, securing an attachment against the gold holdings of the Bank of France.

The Bank of France had a strong defense against the Belgian claims since it was powerless to prevent the theft of the gold which was taken despite its protests. Nevertheless, following reorganization of the Bank of France under the De Gaulle regime, settlement out of court has been effected by restitution in full. In explanation the Bank of France says that it wishes to maintain the excellent relations it has always enjoyed with the National Bank of Belgium. Other considerations not publicly acknowledged may have contributed to the generosity of the settlement. But in any event, the incident affords encouraging evidence of a state of mind that augurs well for the future. It strengthens the hope that the virtually insoluble international financial complications resulting from this war may be settled by agreement without long drawn-out and acrimonious interchanges.

Foreign Relations

It is a stroke of good fortune that the electorate has given the Senate an opportunity to add five new names to its Foreign Relations Committee on the eve of that committee's most important undertaking in this generation. The five new members will by no means dominate the committee, for its total membership is 23. Nevertheless they will be a marked influence. They may easily become the balance of power that will commit this strategically located congressional group either to positive international collaboration to keep the peace or else to backward-looking opposition.

The public has a vital interest, therefore, in the selections to be made. Too often these posts have been distributed by the Democratic Steering Committee and the Republican Committee on Committees by rote of seniority. Indeed, that is the chief reason why misfits so often turn up at the head of major congressional committees. Most of the evils of the seniority rule with respect to chairmanships could be overcome by selecting highly competent and progressive members for seats on the major committees from the ranks of both parties.

Men with outstanding records in the sphere of foreign affairs have applied for the three Democratic and the two Republican vacancies—men of the caliber of Carl A. Hatch, Harold H. Burton, Lister Hill and William J. Fulbright, all of them identified with the move in Congress to weld the United Nations into a powerful peace agency. But these attractive assignments are also being sought by isolationist Burton K. Wheeler, uncooperative Styles Bridges and various others who have little to offer to the cause of world organization for peace. We think that Senate leaders of both parties will leave themselves open to the most serious criticism if they fail to take advantage of this great opportunity to strengthen the committee for its vital role in the next decade. The place to begin preparing the way for the new peace system is certainly in the selection of public servants favorable to that idea, as the voters clearly showed last month. The Senate would be arbitrary indeed if it should fail to follow through, in the selection of its own committeemen, the lead which the voters have given it.

Christmas, 1944

Rejoicing is tinged by sorrow, anxiety and a graveness of spirit as the country observes its fourth wartime Christmas since Pearl Harbor. There is no lack of the traditional Christmas spirit. On the contrary, we surmise that it is abundant throughout the country, as it is in Washington. But the festive spirit so characteristic of the day has a deep undertone of solemnity. The cry of "Peace on earth good will toward men" has lost the ring of a holiday shibboleth and taken on the warmth of a fervent prayer. For the hope that is uppermost in millions of homes is that the men who are risking their lives for the sake of humanity may return safely to a world free from war.

Nor is the association of the Christmas spirit with the state of the world today mere superficial sentimentality. In our hearts we know that a lasting peace cannot be obtained by victorious armies or antiwar alliances alone. Living at peace is basically a matter of the relations of man to man. Powerful armies with all of the marvelous gadgets and devices that modern industry supplies can put down the forces of evil and aggression. Wise statesmen can prepare the way for cooperation among the peace-loving nations for their mutual protection against future conquests. But these hopeful efforts cannot succeed for any length of time unless they are backed up by a powerful will to peace among the rank and file of men.

We are well aware of the fact that this is a commonplace observation. Many profound truths are time-worn. It frequently happens, however, that the most obvious truth is rediscovered only after much soul-searching in the midst of a world-wide upheaval. We are usually inclined to ground our hopes on machinery and organization because these are tangible and readily understood. It is pleasant to believe that a sick world can be restored by these means. But we have only to reflect that all institutions have meaning only as they are informed by the thoughts and acts of men. It is of the utmost significance, therefore, to remember that peace begins in the hearts of men.

The danger of ignoring this basic fact stands out clearly from the Russian-Polish controversy. The Russians want a friendly government in Poland. That is understandable because of their suffering at the hands of the Nazi invaders and because the best hope for peace in Europe lies in cooperation of Germany's neighbors to prevent her from going on an aggressive rampage once more. But friendship between Moscow and Warsaw is not likely to be attained without a feeling of mutual trust and unity of purpose between the Russian and Polish peoples. We learned at heavy cost to ourselves in Latin America that nations do not become good neighbors through domination of the weak by the strong. It is no more reasonable to suppose that harsh decisions imposed on Poland will be conducive to either friendship, peace or security in the end.

The spread of peace presupposes common standards among peoples. If peace is not to rest on armed might it must acquire a foundation of justice, respect for human rights and a common morality. To be sure, force will be necessary to hold aggressors in check so far as we can see into the future. But if that force is not tempered by the principles associated with Christianity, it may easily become more intolerable than recurrent wars. Today there is a submerged realization of this basic relationship between peace and morality, but there is also a widespread attempt to flee from its implications into cynicism or despair. To do so, however, is to betray those who have given their lives for human freedom, democratic principles and national security. If we think seriously will impel us to seek with all our energy a about it, the very nature of their sacrifice will impel us to seeek with all our energy a new basis for peace in the relations of man to man.

Racing Ban

When nonessential activities, such as racing, begin to interfere seriously with the war effort, they should of course be promptly suppressed. Indeed, the Byrnes ban on all racing events is overdue. For it became apparent long ago that racing was directly impeding the war effort by its demands upon manpower and transportation and indirectly slowing down production by encouraging absenteeism among workers living in the vicinity of race tracks and distracting the minds of others from their duties.

Despite all the cant that is heard about the morale-building effect of professional sports in wartime, racing is at best an exciting kind of commercialized entertainment and at worst a means of separating foolish people from money that could be put to much better use. In 1944, for instance, more than a billion dollars was bet on the races—a really shocking total. We are not particularly concerned about the losses suffered by thousands of individuals who contributed to these gigantic gambling totals. They are to be censured rather than pitied. We are, however, appalled at the encouragement thereby given to the expansion of this nonessential industry in such critical times. Moreover, there is something unseemly and subtly demoralizing about the spectacle of a people at war pouring millions of dollars into pari-mutuel machines while the Treasury is appealing to them with indifferent success to buy war bonds.

It is to be hoped that the ban on racing will stick for the duration and that stern measures will also be taken to curb the abuses that have sprung up in connection with other professional sports. Most Americans must have wondered how it is possible for so many "4-F's" to perform so brilliantly on the country's playing fields. Most of us have also been surprised at the considerable number of seemingly husky and personable professional entertainers who don uniforms long enough to be photographed and suddenly reappear in civilian attire. Presumably their brief service careers have uncovered unsuspected disabilities, but there is always the chance that somebody has made a mistake. In any event, we are glad that War Mobilization Director Byrnes has addressed a few searching questions to the head of Selective Service and that General Hershey has consequently ordered local draft boards to review the classifications of professional athletes who have been deferred or discharged.

Fears have been expressed that this draft review will administer knockout blows to professional baseball, football and other commercialized sports. Such forebodings afford strong circumstantial evidence that there is "something rotten in the state of Denmark." If so, a thorough-going housecleaning, without further delay, is imperative in view of the growing demands upon manpower and materials to meet the expanded war program and satisfy the demands of the armed services for replacements.

Reprisal Or Amnesty?

The chief internal political problem of the newly liberated countries seems to be punishment of persons accused or suspected of collaboration with the enemy. How thoroughly must retributive justice be applied? Where is it possible to draw a line between criminal collaboration and a necessary adjustment to the conditions of the occupation? The question is of the greatest importance to the peace, for it is possible to imagine circumstances which the hunting down of real and supposed collaborationists might assume the proportions of another of those wholesale purges which have been characteristic of this and other revolutionary epochs.

Reprisals against collaborationists in France began almost immediately after the liberation. It was at first largely the work of vigilantes and other extralegal groups, and the publicity attaching to these reprisals abroad led to the suspicion that in some cases at least the pretext of patriotism was being given to purely private vengeance. The provisional government of General de Gaulle has now succeeded in canalizing the patriotic anger against collaborationists, and the reprisals are now proceeding with due regard for judicial processes and forms. There seems, however, to be little consistency in some of the sentences the courts have meted out to collaborationists. Thus, for example, one well known Parisian newspaper editor who had served the German interest during the occupation was condemned to death and shot, while another, tried on what seems to have been much the same charge, was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment. Some persons accused of having given information to the Germans have been sentenced to death; others merely to prison.

The arrests and prosecutions are proceeding in the belief that a dangerous fifth column of Frenchmen actively sympathetic to the Nazis still exists and must be ferreted out and destroyed. According to one dispatch, it is proposed to bring more than 100,000 persons to trial. A political purge on such a scale would, regardless of the guilt or innocence of the persons concerned, greatly retard the restoration of order and tranquillity, without which the reconstruction of Europe will be impossible. As far as we know, nothing like 100,000 arrests have been made in France, which means that, as was the case under the reign of terror, a large portion of the population must live in daily fear of accusation or suspicion. There is also the question of whether it is possible to apply a definition of treason or sedition retroactively. Moreover, in the nature of things, the instances of what is now defined as treasonable or seditious collaboration, must have been of a relatively minor sort. It should be taken into account, we think, that in almost any country at almost any historical period the great bulk of the people is politically passive, that is to say, without strong convictions or passions in political matters. In times of civil war they are drawn to one side or other by circumstances which are largely accidental.

Thus we think the governments now restored should consider the advantages of a policy of judicious clemency. Certainly the chief traitors, the Quislings, Lavals and Doriots, should be tried and sternly punished, as should those who have been guilty of acts of great barbarism or cruelty. But it does not seem to us that there is much to be gained by permitting the terror of the Nazi occupation to be followed by a counterterror directed by ultra-patriots or ideological fanatics. A reasonable security of the life and person of the citizen is necessary to stability, and it seems to us the repatriated European governments would do well to examine the policies of amnesty pursued by Charles II of England and Louis XVIII of France after their respective restorations.

Dilemmas Of Peace

By Mark Sullivan

The Wilson Analogy

THE DAY before Christmas newspapers printed accounts of a call on President Roosevelt by two Senators who wish earnestly to see the world achieve organized and permanent peace. Emerging from their talk with the President, Senators Ball of Minnesota and Hatch of New Mexico said:

"There is no easy solution in sight for the different problems and responsibilities facing the United Nations and particularly the United States, Great Britain and Russia."

Recognition that there is "no easy solution" may not conform to momentary, superficial Christmas cheer, but it is the best first step toward achieving the ultimate Christmas goal of peace on earth. For it has been reliance upon an easy way, upon an aspiration, a formula, that has led to our present disillusionment. Many of us thought that the altruistic objectives of the Atlantic Charter could be achieved by merely proclaiming it.

THERE IS DANGER of falling into the same error about the proposal for an international organization to prevent future war. As many relied upon the phrase "Atlantic Charter," so do many tend to rely upon the phrase "Dumbarton Oaks" as the label and symbol of the proposed permanent organization to prevent war. In this spirit of dependence upon a symbolic phrase, it is now suggested that the Dumbarton Oaks proposal be adopted immediately, without waiting for the end of the war, or for the settlements of international disputes that must attend conclusion of the war, such as the present one about Poland.

About acting on the Dumbarton Oaks proposal at once, there is good argument on both sides. Something is to be said for it even on the basis of facing reality, to which we ought now commit ourselves. But many who advocate early adoption of the Dumbarton Oaks proposal, do so in the spirit of finding an easy solution. They are dismayed by the dispute about Poland and apprehensive over similar disputes certain to arise as the war moves toward conclusion. So they say, in effect, let us set up the Dumbarton Oaks organization at once, and leave the disputes to it.

WITHOUT STRETCHING analogy too far, this is somewhat like the course President Wilson followed 25 years ago. He, with the other Allied heads, faced the same problems of international boundaries and self-determination of small nations that now face Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill and Mr. Stalin. Some of the problems, Wilson and his associates partially solved. But they realized that if they tried to solve all, and solve them so the solutions would stick, the peace conference might last for years. So they made partial and tentative settlements of some and left others open. They set up the Covenant of the League of Nations, intending that the league should solve at its leisure the problems which the peace conference found too tedious and time consuming.

To this the American Senate objected. They demanded that the peace treaties with Germany and the other enemy nations be regarded separately from the Covenant for a League of Nations. Vehemently Wilson retorted: "When that treaty comes back, gentlemen (in the Senate) will find the Covenant not only in it, but so many threads of the treaty tied to the Covenant that you cannot dissect the Covenant from the treaty without destroying the whole vital structure."

The separation which Wilson was unwilling to accept, Congress itself made. For concluding the war, the Senate and House wrote a concurrent resolution. The League of Nations, after months of debate in the Senate, was rejected.

WHETHER the Dumbarton Oaks proposal be acted upon now, or after the war ends, it had best be regarded separately from the boundary and other disputes that accompany conclusion of the war. These disputes face Mr. Roosevelt as they faced Wilson. There is no easy solution, they must be faced as they arise.

Masterful Touch?

During the recent campaign Governor Bricker, speaking of the conduct of foreign relations, said the Roosevelt Administration had bungled and confused the domestic situation in the United States and on that record it could not be expected to do any different in the foreign field.

Well it looks as if Governor Bricker called the turn, if the present muddle is any criterion.

How would you vote today Mr. American, you who voted for Roosevelt because of his supposedly masterly handling of the foreign situation?

If Roosevelt is the quarterback and calling the signals his fake pass (Atlantic Charter) seems to be miscarrying as a means of advancing the ball (world peace through equal rights for all nations) and all the ground gaining seems to be by Stalin. Churchill seems busy recovering fumbles.

America would like to know the score!

J. E. S.

Washington, Dec. 20.

The Victoria Cross

By Capt. Richard L. Neuberger

Britain's Highest Award

ALONG the Chilkat River near the border between Alaska and Canada, lonely settlers told us with pride about George R. Pearkes who once had ridden the Dalton Post patrol across Chilkat Pass in the scarlet tunic of the Royal Mounted. George Pearkes, they said, had gone off to war and won the Victoria Cross. Not until months later did we learn that George Pearkes also had risen from private to major general in the Canadian Army. The generalship had not seemed important to the old-timers. It was the Victoria Cross that mattered.

The Victoria Cross is like that. The "V. C." takes precedence over rank, wealth, title and position. It is the rarest military decoration on earth. A tradition of long standing has had British generals saluting lieutenants or corporals wearing the V. C. Yet many V. C. men never receive the tribute of a salute from their superiors for the medal if often won at the cost of life itself. Of the 105 V. C.'s awarded in the present war, 45 have been bestowed posthumously and another 22 to men seriously wounded.

The V. C. is given to a member of the British military service who performs "a signal act of valor or devotion in the presence of the enemy." Many British soldiers, seamen and aviators qualify for lesser medals but few win the V. C. All recommendations for the V. C. are screened innumerable times. No matter how gallant the deed described, at least three witnesses must have seen it performed. This prevents legend from being accepted as fact.

If an entire regiment or a warship is engaged in a feat of outstanding bravery, recipients of the V. C. are chosen by secret ballot among all the men participating. This happened at the blocking of Zeebrugge in April of 1918 and during particularly hazardous air exploits of World War II. For example, if 200 men risk their lives in a perilous venture "above and beyond the call of duty," the officers may elect one of their number to be a candidate for the V. C., the noncommissioned officers may elect one N. C. O. and the men in the ranks must choose two among their numbers. Generally, the winners in these unique ballotings are men who have lost their lives in the exploit.

Proudest Initials

The proudest initials which an Englishman can write after his name are not those of a knight or a viscount but the initials "V. C." Few have been able to write them. In the three-fourths of a century between 1856 and the outbreak of this war, only 1150 awards were made of Britain's highest medal. The decoration was instituted by Queen Victoria at the suggestion of the Prince Consort. The words "for valor" dominate the medal itself.

Originally the V. C. was accompanied by grant of £10 a year. However, in 1898 the British government decided that this sum should be increased to £50 if any winner of the most prized medal in the world were in "straitened or reduced circumstances." A winner of the V. C. who is afterwards convicted of treason, cowardice or any other infamous crime may have his name erased from this select roll of the brave. Kipling wrote that no outpost of empire was too remote, far-flung or sunk in sin to fail to do full honors to a wearer of the V. C.

The V. C. has been won by the braided commanders of battleships, by bearded troopers in the Indian Rifles, by fur-muffled Canadian Mounties, by sweaty New Zealanders in the jungles of the Pacific. The first V. C. winner of this war was Capt. B. A. W. Warburton-Lee of the destroyer Hardy. He took his little vessel into the bottleneck of the deep Norwegian fiord at Narvik and attacked a German fleet. The Hardy was riddled and Captain Warburton-Lee mortally wounded on the bridge. Before he died he told the helmsman to stay at his post. "Continue to engage the enemy" were the last words of Captain Warburton-Lee.

This was in the tradition of most awards of the V. C. Sergt. J. A. Ward of No. 75 Squadron, Royal New Zealand Air Force, carried on the tradition. Over Munster flack started a fire in the starboard engine of the Wellington bomber on which Ward was second pilot. All efforts to extinguish the blaze failed. It was obvious that soon the whole wing would be ablaze. Ward grabbed a canvas engine cover, climbed out through the top hatch and crawled onto the wing, breaking hand holds in the fabric.

With the terrific wind of the slip-stream threatening to blow him off into space, Ward stuffed the engine cover into the hole from which the fire was coming and smothered it. Then, still 2 miles above Germany, he crawled back into the cabin of the plane.

And so he got his V. C.

Symbol of Valor

This sort of tale can be repeated many times. The claret-colored ribbon of the Victoria Cross is Britain's smybol of valor. When they see that strip of cloth, members of the British military service salute before they glimpse the rank of the wearer. Most of the winners of the medal are men in the ranks, although a few famous generals can sign "V. C." after their names, too.

Among these generals are Pearkes, the Canadian, who was a mounted police constable, and Gort, the Englishman, who is a viscount. Both won the V. C. in the First World War. Other general officers whose jackets boast the claret ribbon are Freyburg of New Zealand and A. Carton De Wiart of England. The winning of the V. C. is a memorable event. Citizens of Vancouver, B. C., changed to "Valor Street" the name of the avenue where Lieut. Col. Cecil Merritt lives. He won the V. C. at Dieppe.

Many famous exploits of this war have brought brave men the V. C. The award went posthumously to Comdr. Fogarty Fegen, who skippered the merchantman Jervis Bay into the maw of a Nazi pocket battleship to save a convoy. Wing Comdr. Guy P. Gibson, since shot down over Germany, got his V. C. for leading the Royal Air Force raids which blew up the Moehne and Eder Dams in the Rhine Valley. Corpl. J. H. Edmundson of the Australian army lost his life and won his V. C. when he single-handedly stemmed a Nazi breakthrough of the barbed-wire surrounding the besieged fortress of Tobruk.

Few honors of any sort have such prestige as the V. C. A field marshal or a sergeant can wear it, and still mean the same thing. One British leader said, "No man can win the V. C. and ever be the same again. He becomes a member of a class apart. He is one with the brave. He is entitled to the respect of all men, whether friend or foe, for courage is everywhere admired."

Letters To The Editor

Communications must carry writer's name and address, though pen names are permitted at the editor's discretion. Letters should be held to not more than 200 words. They are subject to condensation.

Christmas Thought

What empty sounds words are at this Christmastime. Peace on earth, good will toward men. How hollow and futile it all seems. Torn flesh over bloody battlefields while anguished souls behind broken bricks weep and pray. What is sorrow? Is it the mother waiting beside the evergreen . . . waiting . . . waiting? Is it this boy in the muck-filled fox hole brushing away a tear as he thinks of a home now almost invisible to memory midst the thundering shellfire? Is it this baby crying out for its mother who lies dead amid the bomb-shattered ruins? Is sorro something you can solve . . . or cure like a sickness?

But this is not the time to grieve nor be melodramatic nor even dwell upon the world's sorry plight. There is more to this Christmas than the giving and receiving of gayly colored packages . . . of prayers for missing loved ones, for victory and the bountiful table. We must not wait for the turn of this year to make our resolutions and plan our coming ambitions.

Buy two more bonds . . . put in two extra hours at the plant . . . send two letters to that boy. And do it now, this Christmastime, so that we all may soon realize the truth of peace on earth, good will toward men.

PVT. B. H. WEILAND.

Fort Belvoir, Va., Dec. 21.

From The Pacific

The attached is part of a letter from a soldier who has been in the Southwest Pacific for 30 months, and conveys to us his feelings, which I think is typical of all our fighting men on the world's battlefields:

Dear Mom—

I am very sorry I led everyone at home to believe that I would be home for Christmas. At one time I was under the impression that it might be possible, but as the situation over here progresses, I can see that I was mistaken. The way things look now, I have no idea when I'll return, maybe in a few months, or maybe not for a year.

Both you and Dad seem to be under the impression that I do not want to come home, because in my letters I don't complain a great deal about having to stay over here. You also seem to think that I like this game of war we are having over here. One of these days, Mom, I'll be able to tell you all about it.

Sometimes I think my family know very little about me. I know these people over here don't. I have a certain code of ethics on which I base my life—that code being right and wrong. You and Dad are always telling me "to trust in God; that He will take care of me." I don't know much about God, but I believe if a man does what is right according to his conscience, he will come out OK in the end.

I've seen enough over here to be afraid, and want to come home, but there is something even greater than fear that has a tendency to urge me not to cry out, but to see this thing through if I have to. If you can understand this, Mom, you have the key to how I feel about this whole affair over here. It is something over which I have no control. It seems to be above love and even life itself, because the longer I stay over here, the less chance I have of returning.

I hope this letter doesn't disturb you too much, but after the letters I have been receiving from you lately, I felt that I had to let you know how I feel. ANONYMOUS.

Washington, Dec. 20.

Posting The Books

By J. M. Lalley

An Art Book

MASTERPIECES OF PAINTING FROM THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART; edited by Huntington Cairns and John Walker. (Random House, $6.50.)

The engravings in this book are just about the finest job of reproduction by color process plates that has come to my notice. It has always seemed to me a great pity that the admirable skill and technique of American photoengravers are usually wasted on advertisements for blended whiskies, bathroom furniture, plated tableware and other such things. But here for once they have had subject material, or copy, as they call it, worthy of their work, and they have made the most of it. The press work is equally remarkable; the plates are in almost microscopically perfect register, and the result is that most of the finer details and subtleties of tone in the 85 originals have been preserved. Some values of course have been necessarily lost or diminished, and to contemplate the pictures in this book is perhaps not quite the same as contemplating the paintings themselves; for one thing nearly all the paintings have been reduced in scale in order to accommodate them to the format, and for another, no technical ingenuity can ever make the texture of coated paper approximate that of a carefully sized and time-ripened canvas. Thus it strikes me that with the earlier Florentine and Flemish pieces, painted on wood, as for example, the *Visitation* of Piero di Cosimo and the *Anunciation* of Van Eyck, the engravers have more completely and more accurately captured the sensuous climate of the originals, than in the case of canvases. And what I should suppose to be the most celebrated painting of the lot, the *Alba Madonna* of Raphael, seems to me to have suffered most in the transposition to the glazed page.

All the same, I think that through the possession of reproductions of such quality as these, one can achieve a greater intimacy with masterpieces than one is likely to acquire in any number of conscientious visits to museums. A museum, even a rich and beautiful museum like the National Gallery of Art, is a rather unnatural place. I doubt that there are many besides professional artists or critics who can visit a museum without a certain self-conscious eagerness to be impressed which more often than not defeats its purpose. All art, as I believe, is a process of communication, but the process demands a degree of relaxation as well as of receptivity in the beholder, and this in turn demands a certain freedom from distraction. This has seemed to me difficult, if not impossible where in the same section of wall a dozen or a score of pictures are almost simultaneously competing for attention—a sort of competition, indeed, not foreseen by most of the painters represented in this book. The entire sensuous and spiritual import of a masterpiece of painting is, it seems to me, rarely communicated at first sight; to comprehend such a picture one must live with it for a time; one must, as in any companionship, achieve a certain emotional *rapprochement* with it. And since it is impossible for most of us to live intimately with original masterpieces, the best substitute is to live with first-rate reproductions of them.

In their selection of the pictures to be reproduced Messrs. Cairns and Walker evidently had in mind to make as catholic a survey of the history of painting as the resources of National Gallery permitted. Thus the exhibit begins with an icon by some anonymous Byzantine and closes with a piece by Cezanne, thereby completing something like a full cycle. Inevitably, the selections reflect both the strength and the inadequacies of the gallery itself. The book is strong in Italian painters of the earlier *quatrocento*, relatively strong in Flemish primitives, weak in painters of the later Renaissance, and relatively weak in all the more modern schools. Facing each of the paintings the editors have placed a paragraph or two of commentary; these have been chosen from the most diverse sources, including some, such as Vasari and Boccaccio, contemporary with the painters, some contemporary with the editors, such as Aldous Huxley and Somerset Maugham, some not exactly contemporary with either, such as Dante, Pater and Arthur Symons. It is obvious that a great deal of thought and erudition went into the selection of these commentaries, but there is no identity of purpose in them. In some instances they relate strictly to the painting in question, in others rather to the painter, and in some merely to the general subject of the painting or to special esthetic climate of the period. There are a few cases where the connection between text and picture strikes me as tenuous indeed, as for example where a well-known letter by Voltaire, lamenting the death of Mme. Pompadour and praising her patronage of art and letters, is coupled with Boucher's *Venus Consoling Love*, an extravagance of flesh tones, which 30 or 40 years ago might have seemed appropriate to the calendar of a barbers' supply business. The only nexus is that the picture was once the property of La Pompadour. All the same, the method is in general successful and enlightening, and a welcome substitute for the usual platitudes of the critics and the jargon of the painters.

The German Offensive

By Ernest Lindley

Whose Miscalculation?

THERE IS OFTEN a difference in outlook between the men who are fighting, dying, being wounded, and suffering in particular battles and the men who have the responsibility for the overall strategy on which the destinies of nations depend. The strategists may plan to achieve their ends with minimum casualties to their own forces. Skillful strategists in countries which value highly human life do so plan. But they know that casualties will be suffered—must be, to win victories.

LINDLEY

Likewise, when the enemy outsmarts us, the strategists' appraisal of the effect may differ sharply from that of the officers and men whose fortunes and lives are most immediately affected.

This disparity was evident during the first 18 months after Pearl Harbor when every Allied theater commander was shouting and aching for more and more, not to defeat our enemies, but merely to hold them. Many men went to their death who would be alive now if men and equipment assigned to other theaters had been assigned to theirs. The combined chiefs of staff allocated their limited means as best they could, and their judgement, on the whole, was vindicated by the results obtained, first in the holding stakes of the war and then in the great Allied counter-offensives.

LIKEWISE in the situation on the Western Front in Europe created by the German counter-offensive, the appraisal of the men who were killed or caught by it inevitably differs in degree from that of the strategists. Dispatches from the front have described this as the worst defeat the United States Army has suffered since the loss of the Philippines. In loss of material, certainly, and in loss of men, probably, it is more severe than the defeat in the Philippines. It may be the most costly reverse, in men and munitions, ever suffered by the United States Army.

But the strategic measurements of the cost may be substantially different. Germany's chances of escaping complete defeat rest only on the hope that the Grand Alliance will dissolve from mistrust or a failure in morale on the part of one or more of its major members. The most that the Germans could hope to win from this offensive was a few additional months in which this dissolution or weakening of resolution might occur. In this long-shot gamble they invested some of their best troops.

They caught us off guard. There is no doubt about that. Our intelligence seems to have been faulty and, in addition, our offensive-minded generals seem to have discounted the capacity of the Germans to strike back in a big way. But it may be that the Germans also erred, in miscalculating the strength of the Allies presently available in Europe. Or they may not have miscalculated, but simply staked what they could on a desperate gamble.

Whatever the mental processes of the German high command may have been, the fact is that up to writing, its counteroffensive caused less anxiety among the global strategists than in the European theater, and especially than among the officers and men whose reputations and lives have been immediately at stake. The calmer appraisal of the global strategists assumes, of course, that in individual courage and skill, American and British troops are not superior to German.

BETWEEN D-DAY and their current counter-offensive the Germans suffered approximately 1,250,000 permanent casualties—killed, captured, and incapacitated—in the west alone. This is in addition to the German soldiers still bottled up in some of the western ports and on the Aegean Islands and to German casualties on the Russian front.

German losses in the West alone between D-Day and this drive were more than twice the total of American casualties in all the services and in all theaters since the beginning of the war. There is no consolation in that for the American soldiers who have been killed, wounded or captured, in this battle or will become casualties if the Germans succeed, through this offensive, in prolonging the war. But it is not yet certain that the Germans will succeed, by this offensive, in prolonging the war, even though they upset Eisenhower's carefully laid plans.

The German command outsmarted ours, at least in the opening phase of this offensive. The stamina and resourcefulness of the German war machine were underestimated, but perhaps not by so much as many thought when the German panzer divisions struck into Belgium and Luxembourg. This calmer appraisal of news which was indubitably bad was first reflected publicly in Secretary Stimson's statement to the press last Thursday. It may be wrong, but it was in accord with the considered judgment of high-ranking professional strategists.

Off the Record

By Ed Reed

"It had to happen!—I've been keeping all this in me since three weeks before Christmas!"

Nelson B. Bell About the Showshops

Peril, It Seems, Lurks In Letting the Hair Down; Notes of the Theater

IT WOULD BE A SUPPORTABLE SUGGESTION that the most recherche social event of last week was the Christmas party heaved with hearty abandon in suite 100-E and the Blue Room of the Shoreham Friday night by Carter T. Barron, in his annual salute to the managers in his eastern division of Loew's, Inc. and the local drama desks.

CARTER T. BARRON

Mr. Barron has a way of doing these yearly things extremely well. There could not possibly be anything with which one could quibble, from the flow of champagne to the next day's monumental hangover.

But the perfect appointments of the feast and Mr. Barron's generosity, that did up an important Christmas present between the covers of Burns Mantle's volume of the "Best Plays of 1943-44," were not the amiable aspects of the occasion that impressed me most.

It has long been a contention of mine that to get a true slant on the real capabilities of popular performers it is necessary to catch them with their hair down.

There was a considerable mop of hair down in the Shoreham Friday night. Most of it belonged to Sam Jack Kaufman. Gene Ford, Milt Slosser, Lynn Allison and Connie Krueger, who, aside from her secretarial work is one of the Columbia Light Opera Company's foremost contraltos.

It became apparent, as the evening sped on, and as many of us had known before, that Sam Jack Kaufman, in addition to being an able orchestra leader and fluent emcee, at base is a concert pianist.

I don't know how long Sam sat at the keyboard, but it must have been hours. During that expansive stretch he was never at a loss to pick out of the 8½ octaves anything that was asked for.

Besides, that he composed a sort of operetta on the spur of the moment, the clean side of his cuff, or something, that put into chromatics my revered better-half's conviction that Connie Krueger is a natural for the Capitol stage. The lyrics were pretty terrible, but the tunes were inspired. But you ain't heard nothing yet?

The Loew organization, it seems, is asquirm with artists at the keyboard. When it came Milt Slosser's turn, he was a bit apologetic. His plaint was that "I just can't play the piano." It would be interesting to know what he calls it. All he did was tear off all the tunes, ancient and modern, that anyone asked for, and with a flourish that was something. So, in course of time, he turned the job over to Gene Ford, managing director of the Capitol, whose musical background is almost completely musical comedy, as exemplified by a few such tyros as Ned Wayburn, Flo Ziegfeld, Charles Dillingham, Henry Savage, Klaw and Erlanger, the Shuberts, and practically anyone else you might care to mention. What with Lynn Allison and Connie Krueger, a sterling soprano and a gifted contralto, ducting, the rest of us messing the thing up horribly, and this, that and the other, it was very harmonious evening.

Getting right down to it, if one must, there seems to be no end to the Yuletide festivities. Tomorrow at noon, the drama desks will be coguests with the radio commentators at a luncheon to be held in Herb Sachs' Del Rio at noon, with Joseph Schildkraut, costar with Eva Le Gallienne in "The Cherry Orchard," at the National, as honor guest. Jake Flax, local representative for Republic Pictures, will be host. It comes out in thoroughly subdued form that Republic has something in the offing bearing the title of "Flame of the Barbary Coast," in which Mr. Schildkraut is costarred with John Wayne.

A Prince of Princes

There is no one to whom I would rather pay a profound tribute than to Joe E. Brown.

I have known Joe for a long string of years now. During that ample expanse of time I have never known him to let the public down, or himself. There is an integrity about the fellow that commands respect.

This could be press-agentry, to be sure, but it just happens that it isn't.

Joe lost a cherished son in airplane training. The blow was as severe as such blows usually are. There was a time when he seemed on the verge of abandoning his public career as a result of the shock. And then what does he do?

What he does, and I mistrust that Mrs. Brown had something to do with the final eventuation—she is that sort of person—is traipse himself around the world to entertain the lads in the service who are doing what his boy set out to do.

I have no first-hand knowledge of the circumstances, but when the CBI Roundup comes out and says that Joe flunked out on his China-Burma-India assignments, it simply doesn't go down with me. He isn't cut from that corner of the cloth.

And so, maybe this is press-agentry. When "Hollywood Canteen" comes next to the screen at the Earle Theater, Joe will be in there doing the routines that he has employed in diverting the uniformed forces ever since he started out circling the globe. Circling the globe is precisely what he has done.

I suspected as much when I first met him, but I am sure of it now. Joe E. Brown has qualities of mind and heart that are encountered so seldom that when they do come along a pretty deep bow seems, somehow, to be not quite enough.

And the back of my hand to the editor of the CBI Roundup!

The implication of idleness really is most disturbing. No opening, no party, no nothing tonight? I can't believe it—although I'd like to and am doing my best!

Repeating-Yesterday Note

And a Merry Christmas to you, too!

Washington Calling

By Marquis Childs

The Faith Of The Future

IN A GREAT MANY American homes today, the thoughts of all will go out to those who are in the distant places of the earth contending with a savage enemy and with the unrelenting elements.

We will be thinking of the gifts that have gone out, such small things really and yet counting, we hope, for so much in that they will recall a happier past.

Actually, of course, the total volume of gifts going overseas was not small. It was an overwhelming tide—more than 82 million parcels. Postmaster General Frank Walker certainly understated the case when he said it was the greatest single task ever attempted by the postal service to deliver this Christmas mail to the four corners of the earth.

A measure of the growth of our armies overseas is seen in the fact that, last year, only 20,500,000 parcels were sent to fighting men out of the country, less than a fourth of this year's total. It took a small army of workers to handle the thousands of tons of gifts that passed through the New York and San Francisco postoffice.

TO FACILITATE the task, it was necessary to build postal concentration centers. One such center constructed at Sunnyside, Long Island, has 14 acres of floor space and, at the peak of the overseas mailing in September, more than 12,000 workers were employed there.

As a proud, rich country, we would not have it any other way. It is little enough, we think, to do for those who are giving so very much.

Yet, perhaps, we might give more. We might give more of faith and conviction and understanding. Of course, there is no lack of love for the individual—love and longing. But sometimes it must seem that we give without giving enough of ourselves. "The gift without the giver is bare." In the understanding of what the ordeal means, in appreciation of its magnitude and in the conviction of its vital meaning for each and every one of us, we can give more.

Ernie Pyle, more than any other single individual, has contributed to our understanding by his reports—in simple, human terms—of the meaning of battle and sudden death. Those who were fortunate enough to get a copy of his new book, "Brave Men," before it was sold out in the pre-Christmas rush, can read it with great profit.

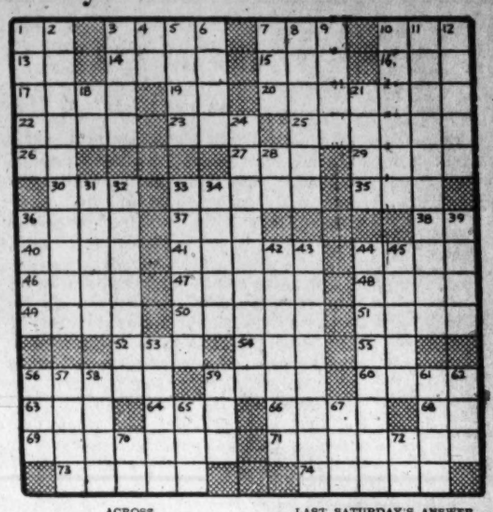
HE MAKES you feel the inner discipline with which our soldiers face the trial of this conflict. Of causes, of reasons, of aims, they know little. They accept their duty as it comes. Pyle's description of the American task force as it approached the shores of Nazi-held Europe convey that:

"The darkness enveloped the whole American armada. Not a pin-point of light showed from those hundreds of ships as they surged on through the night toward their destiny, carrying across the ageless and indifferent sea tens of thousands of young men fighting for . . . for . . . Well, at least for each other."

The bright ribbon and the colored paper on the gifts that we sent overseas will not long survive, nor will the gifts themselves. Some of the men to whom they were sent are now dead.

What can endure is our faith in their courage and their achievement—and that alone. On this day above all other days, we should remember that.

Daily Cross Word Puzzle



ACROSS

1 Preposition
3 Desire
7 Pronoun
10 Every one
13 Above
14 Stake
15 Sea eagle
16 Contend
17 Narrate
19 Land measure
20 Foot of three more
22 Spoken
23 Fabulous bird
25 Pagan
26 Egyptian god
27 Possessive pronoun
29 Brooch
30 Beret
33 Joyous
35 Of God
36 Pit for fodder
37 Silkworm
38 Behold!
40 Amphibian
41 Rope
44 Vessel
46 Former
47 Aquatic mammal
48 Piece
49 Requests
50 Vanished
51 Legal claim
52 Attempt
54 Copy
55 Near
56 Beach
59 Ridges
60 Weary
63 Fish
64 Sailor
66 Pith
68 Preposition
69 Forbearing
71 Began
73 Overgrown with a soft plant
74 Turns

DOWN

1 Mentor
2 Activities
3 Rampart
4 Preposition
5 Heavenly body
6 Person of valor
7 Still
8 Apparatus to illustrate planet motions
9 One
10 Way
11 Shore inhabiting, as birds
12 Edge of square sail
18 French pronoun
21 Fitted with footgear
24 Yule
28 Comparative suffix
31 Exclamation of sorrow: poet
32 Diffidence
33 Tune
34 Muse of lyric poetry
36 Portico
39 Sincere
42 Oozing
43 Commanding
44 Splash
45 West Indian island
53 Regards
56 Energy: colloq.
57 Paper measure
58 Singing voice
60 Morsel
61 Fish eggs
62 Finish
65 Some
67 Pen
70 Exists
72 Concerning: law

LAST SATURDAY'S ANSWER

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Clare Luce to Spend Yule at Italian Front

Rome, Dec. 24 (U.P.).—Representative Clare Boothe Luce (R., Conn.), member of the House Military Affairs Committee, returned to the Fifth U. S. Army today to spend Christmas with combat units.

She had dinner with an armored infantry unit and later sang carols with patients and nurses at the Ninety-fourth evacuation hospital. She plans to visit front line positions tomorrow.

Food Producers Seek to Retain Bigger Markets

With food production fairly well stabilized at the 1944 level, food producers and distributors will be giving increased attention in 1945 to retaining currently expanded markets for farm produce in the postwar period, John A. Hartford, president of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, said in a general statement.

"Civilian food consumption in 1944 was approximately 7 per cent per capita above the 1935-39 average," Hartford said. "If agriculture is to be maintained on a sound basis in the postwar years, producers and distributors must devise means of retaining these expanded markets."

Prewar Caskets Destroyed by Fire

Prewar caskets valued at $10,000 were destroyed in a two-alarm fire at the Eugene Ford funeral home, 1300 S. Capitol st. shortly before 11 a. m. yesterday.

Lieut. Seth E. Bishop of No. 7 Engine Company refused treatment after he was almost overcome by the smoke.

The alarm was turned in by a neighbor, Mrs. Amy Hansen, 15 N st. se., who saw smoke coming from the basement of the three-story building where the caskets were stored.

(The Washington Post is cooperating with the Washington City Bible Society (Telephone Met. 3141) in publishing selected scriptural verses, Thanksgiving to Christmas.)

The Christmas Story

From St. Luke:2.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.

And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was the house and lineage of David:

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivred.

And she brought forth her first born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in the manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord;

And this shall be a sign unto you! Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the Heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in th highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

LEONARD LYONS

Times Square Tattle

New York, Dec. 24.—On his way to the dedication of an airfield in Britain Winston Churchill, sitting with Anthony Eden, looked around the railroad car and said: "In my lifetime I've consumed enough Scotch to fill not only this car but also the car ahead." Eden expressed some doubt . . . The Prime Minister, therefore, called a mathematician on the train, repeated his statement, and told him: "Figure it out." . . . The mathematician made his calculations, and reported: "Not two cars full, Mr. Prime Minister. Not full. Only up to three feet from the floor." . . . "Only three feet?" said the 70-year-old Churchill. "That's a terrible blow for a man at my time of life."

WINSTON CHURCHILL

Marie Jose de Chambrun, daughter of Pierre Laval and wife of Rene de Chambrun, went to the American Library in Paris as soon as the Germans left the city. She's remained there ever since. The Free French want to take her into custody, but Laval's daughter insists that she is entitled to American protection by virtue of the honorary American citizenship held by her husband as a descendant of Lafayette . . . The American Library Committee hasn't ordered her to leave because her assertion may have merit. The committee, however, voted to close the library and invited the Red Cross to take possession. This would mean Mrs. Chambrun's ouster.

Mrs. Carla Garabelli, daughter of Vittorio Orlando, Italy's premier of the last war, has been urging all of her titled Italian friends to support the liberal movement in Italy. Mrs. Garabelli assures them that it is fruitless to expect a continuance of the system of government by which they retained their royal titles. "What good is having a de luxe cabin on an ocean liner," she warns them, "if the ship is sinking?"

A German officer in Paris during the occupation entered a women's shop and, as did all Nazi officers, bought all the silk stockings and sent them to his home in Germany. "For years," he told the lady who owns the ship, "German women wore cotton stockings while you French women wore silk ones. But times have changed. Soon German women will be wearing the silk stockings and French women will be wearing the cotton ones?' . . . "Yes, that's true," the French lady replied. "But when French women start wearing cotton stockings, that will be The Style."

Twentieth Century-Fox has signed Dr. Marcel Sternberger, who for 10 years was the official court photographer in Brussels, to photograph the studio's stars. Dr. Sternberger has photographed Anthony Eden, Freud, H. G. Wells, George Bernard Shaw and all the other notables of Europe . . . When he took Shaw's picture, it was for a stipulated price of £200. Shaw liked the photographs and paid the fee. But he paid it by sending 20 checks, each for £10. Dr. Sternberger phoned Shaw, and asked him why he had made payment in such an odd manner. "Why instead of one check for the whole amount, did you send 20 checks?" . . . "There are enough fools in the world who think my autograph is worth something," Shaw explained. "I understand that the prevailing price for my autograph is £25 by sending you 20 checks, both of us will profit. You can sell the £10 checks for £25. And the check purchasers, of course, will want to keep the autographs, and won't cash the checks."

Tallulah Bankhead may accept the starring role in Philip Barry's new play. . . . Orson Welles has purchased from RKO the film he made in South America and which the studio wouldn't allow him to complete. He'll finish it himself. . . . Welles also is writing a novel, "The City of Paris," covering its history from 1935-45. . . . Frank W. Benson and Edward Hopper, the artists, will be elected to the Institute of Arts and Letters. . . . Louis de Rochemont, producer of "The Fighting Lady," Fox's newest exciting movie, has received a doctor of humane letters degree from the University of New Hampshire. . . . The Communist episodes in Richard Wright's "Black Boy" were eliminated because he is using them in his next autobiographic book. . . . The Beverly Hills Citizen, the weekly owned by Will Rogers, jr., will become a daily newspaper in March.

An actor seeking an audition for the new Gershwin-Weill-Mayer musical, "Firebrand," insisted upon being heard immediately because he is a friend of both Ira Gershwin and Kurt Weill. Gershwin and Weill, who were in the room, asked the actor: "And when did you see them last?" . . . "I saw Ira and Kurt only a few days ago, in Hollywood," the actor replied. . . . "Is that so?" said Gershwin. "And how were we?"

Rita Hayworth's next move will be a remake of a Russian musical film. The locale will be changed to Mexico and the U. S. A. This will provide Miss Hayworth with an opportunity to sing some songs in Spanish. . . . Beatrice Lillie complained to her lawyer about a deal into which she had entered, "It isn't the principle of the thing. It's the money." . . . Sergt. Mike Pearman of "Winged Victory" was at Doctors Hospital when Cole Porter arrived there for the thirty-second operation on his legs. He reports that Porter was welcomed by three nurses who said, "Welcome back, Mr. Porter. We always enjoy your visits here; you have such interesting guests."

Dr. Li Yuing arrived in Hollywood recently to address the Free World Association. Many distinguished members of the film colony attended this afternoon session. The eminent Chinese visitor addressed the group in French. . . . Arthur Hornblow, jr., listened attentively to the two-hour speech. He kept repeating, audibly, "Wonderful. That's wonderful." Other producers echoed the praise, and "Wonderful. That's Wonderful" was heard throughout the room. . . . When Dr. Li had finished his French speech, his listeners started to leave, but sat down again when another Chinese visitor arose and said, "I will now translate speech. Dr. Li Yuing say, 'Much better not to eat meat. Eat vegetables.' I thank you."

Brewing Company Hax Refund Held Up by President

By the Associated Press.

President Roosevelt said yesterday he had withheld approval of a bill to refund to the Queen City Brewing Co., Cumberland, Md., $3,062.24 paid in taxes on approximately 500 barrels of fermented malt liquor.

The batch was returned to the brewery after the tax payment from the company's bottling house because of its unsalable condition resulting from a flood, a White House statement said.

Pointing out that a petition for a tax refund was rejected because it was filed after a legal deadline, Mr. Roosevelt said there appeared nothing in the case warranting "a departure from the general policy of the law expressed in the applicable limitation period."

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Byrnes' Edicts Jeopardize All Pro Sports

This Morning

With Shirley Povich

There can't be much quarrel with the action of War Mobilization Boss James F. Byrnes who decided the other day to hang up the "objection" sign against horse racing in the United States at this time. Mr. Byrnes has a very fine argument. He says there is a war to be won, and that the operation of the horse tracks is not conducive to all-out effort.

POVICH

Along the same lines, Byrnes has also turned an inquisitive nose toward baseball, football and other professional sports. He scents something less than all-out cooperation by those industries, too. As yet there is no threat from his all-powerful office to black them out, but he has told Selective Service Boss General Hershey that "certainly it is difficult for me to understand how such men in professional sports could be physically unfit for military service and yet be able to compete with the greatest athletes of the Nation in games demanding physical fitness."

That's one Mr. Byrnes wants answered, and as long as there is a war to be won it warrants an answer. General Hershey has tacitly admitted that Byrnes may have something there, by ordering a reexamination of all of baseball's and football's 4-F's and also the athletes who have been given medical discharges.

As for the ban on racing, which Byrnes drove home with a statement that it was decreed "with presidential approval," there is, however, a slight incongruity. England, France, Russia and Italy are also in this war against Germany. Yet there is horse racing in England, Paris, Moscow and Naples this month. Aren't those countries all-out for this war, or is the United States playing a lone hand?

It might never have happened except for the bad weather on the Western Front this month. The German offensive that produced such a grave situation in Europe might have been beaten back if Allied air power could have been thrown into the battle. But it was grounded by a spell of bad weather. The Germans plowed back through Belgium and Luxembourg, and the United States was reminded that victory won't come easily.

So it behooved Byrnes' office to crack-down on the home front. Horse racing was employing essential manpower. The Hollywood track had been given permission to hire 400 employes for its recent meeting. Santa Anita wanted the same privilege in the critical California area. Byrnes nixed the whole idea by saying there will be no more horse racing anywhere in this country.

At the War Mobilization Board's offices they're willing to admit that the edict against racing was part of their psychological warfare on the home front. The manpower shortages in war industries is critical. By their racing edict they hope to drive workers in other unessential jobs into war work. Racing was vulnerable, anyway. The sport lacked baseball's claim to morale value. It has been using vital railroad transportation for the shipment of horses to the various tracks. The patrons have been using gasoline and tires during a period when both of those commodities were on the critical list. Racing was a sitting duck for some kind of a crackdown.

The war agencies had been taking a dead aim on racing, anyway. Last summer, in a list of nondeferrable occupations, the Manpower Commission listed race track jockeys, trainers and employes. It was their only reference to men in professional sports. Byrnes' action against the horse race business was a-building a long time.

Baseball and football have reason to tremble, too. They may escape being blacked out by Byrnes, but they must struggle to survive. Byrnes, as we were saying, wasn't content to rest on his action against racing. He wanted to know how come so many professional athletes aren't in the service.

Racing men who consider their sport has been the goat of the War Mobilization Office, challenge the morale-building effects of baseball and football. "It's overrated," they say.

"All that talk about the morale qualities of baseball and football is the bunk," one racing man declared. "How can they contribute anything to morale when the fans see big, husky fellows out there on the field getting big salaries while the fans' own brothers and sons are appearing on the casualty lists. That kind of business doesn't contribute anything to homefront morale, as I see it."

On the Line

With CONSIDINE

New York, Dec. 24.—Here's a sports letter with deep National significance. It is from Lieut. Comdr. C. William Duncan, who served in the Navy in our past two wars, and was a Philadelphia sports writer, and a good one, during the intervening years of peace.

CONSIDINE

From Washington, Commander Duncan writes:

"I read with intense interest a recent story from Chicago which said that Art Passarella, the only American League umpire to serve in the Army, had returned to civilian life and found his job gone because the league's umpiring staff is filled.

"Harridge was quoted as saying, 'we took on two new umpires—Jim Boyer from the American Association and Red Jones of the Southern Association—when Art left two seasons ago. Both Boyer and Jones did exceptionally well last season, so now the league has 13 capable umpires and needs only 12. Something will probably be done to place Passarella back on the staff. We'll have to look him over in spring training, however, to see if he's in shape and can step right back into big league company."

Now, this may be only an ordinary situation to civilians, but I'll guarantee you it isn't with servicemen. Mr. Harridge is only one of thousands of employers who has taken on new men to replace those who have gone into the service and now says that he will probably find a place for a returned veteran if he can prove he can still step right back into big league company.

"Thousands of garage and factory owners, department store and grocery store managers will be saying the same thing when the boys stream back two or three years from now in the 'gold rush' for jobs, if any industry as prominent as baseball can get away with this.

"There should be no 'probably' about it. In baseball, and in every other line of industry, the returned man should have the first call to prove he is fit for the job. The ones who replaced the soldier, sailor or marine should do the stepping back until the returned vet gets a thorough chance.

"I wish that every American employer could see the motion picture 'My Buddy.' As one who served in the Navy in 1917 and 1918 and again in 1943 and 1944 I'm wondering how many wars it will take some of the employers to appreciate that soldiers, sailors and marines do get rusty in military service as far as their jobs are concerned, and are at a disadvantage when they get back, but should be given every opportunitq to find themselves in the old environment.

"Surely, going back to the baseball illustration, Umpires Jim Boyer and Red Jones did well in the American League. But Art Passarella did well too, first in the league and then by serving his country.

"Fair treatment to the thousands who are returning now and for the millions who will return later to civilian life is to me one of the burning questions of the day. These thoughts you can print anywhere. They come from me as a lover of sport and a serviceman. I do not speak in any other capacity whatsoever for the United States Navy. I do feel, however, that my thoughts express the thoughts of some 11 million men now in uniform."

That's tellin' 'em, brother.

Not long after the World Series we printed a letter from a young American private first-class, named Marvin S. Traub, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Traub of 310 West 55th st., New York City. It was a letter of touching thanks for the series broadcasts he had heard around a rainy campfire at night in France.

The boy, who is a Harvard undergrad, was badly wounded at Metz. Te played dead for six hours lying 10 yards in front of a shooting German pillbox. Excerpts from his letters, written in a Paris hospital, are like the heartbeats of a GI Joe.

"Don't worry, mom, about my leg. Lots of civilians who've never seen combat, suffer broken legs, and nobody gets excited. . . . I'm glad to hear you gave blood. It works miracles over here, and the boys are grateful for every drop of it. . . . I won a 500 franc pool on the Notre Dame-Tulane game and recouped my losses on the St. Louis Browns. . . . It is a relief to get out of the rain, mud and shelling, eat hot food and sleep in a bed that really has sheets . . . I got a lucky break. . . . I can see Dad standing there, a big white napkin tucked in his belt, getting ready to carve into that golden turkey, and every-

See ON THE LINE, Page 7, Col. 1.

High Scoring Game Seen In Rose Bowl

By Frank Frawley

Pasadena, Calif., Dec. 24 (AP).—Although the records indicate both Tennessee and Southern California are strong, defensively, their football battle in the Rose Bowl January 2 shapes up as a give-and-take scoring spree.

In winning their second Pacific Coast Conference title during Coach Jeff Cravath's tenure, the Trojans forced the pace all year. They went out at the very start to score, and usually did. They whipped a very good service club, San Diego Naval Training Station, by getting away to a touchdown lead, finally were tied at 21-21, and then scored the deciding touchdown with comparative ease.

Tennessee was held to a scoreless tie by Alabama, but otherwise had the scoring punch whenever needed. Their triple threat, Buster Stephens, was the sparkplug of a versatile attacg, grounded on a single wing formation from a balanced line. The Vols passed well and had good driving power.

Trojans Have Tricky T

But the Southerners may have to open up to match the Trojans' trickery out of their T formation. Everybody else had to, of necessity.

Cravath's "Stutter Play," a delayed reverse at a 90-degree angle on the weak side, was one of the best ground gainers in the reper toire. Quarterback Jim Hardy's smooth ballhandling to a supposedly blocking back allowed the Southern Califlornia line to split wide gaps in the opposing line.

Stephens gained almost twice as much yardage as any one Southern California back, but all the Trojan backs carry the ball, and with almost equal facility.

USC Injury Riddled

The Trojans will be nowhere near so strong as they were in late October, when Guard Wally Crittenden, Tackle Marshall Romer and Back Gordon Gray were among those present. They also have lost George Callanan, a speedy back and pass catcher, and Mil Dreblow by injuries.

Yet, if Tenessee stops the Southern California victory march of seven wins in as many tries in the Rose Bowl, there can be no alibis. Replacements have done exceptionally well for Cravath. Whenever he lost a good man, another came up to deliver in grand fashion.

Members of the Eastern Squad Get First Hand Dope

Associated Press WIREPHOTO

Members of the Eastern football squad who meet the Western All-Stars in the annual Shrine Hospital game at San Francisco on New Year's Day, take time out from scrimmage and engage in a little skull practice with Coach Andy Kerr, of Colgate, dishing out the info. The Easterners are reported Slight favorites

Rovers Edge Hockey Lions In Garden, 8-7

New York, ec. 24 (AP).—After overcoming a three-goal deficit and almost nullifying another trio of gials the New York Rovers had piled up against them, the Wasihngton Lions came within one goal of a tie, to drop a close decision to the New Yorkers, 8 to 7, this afternoon before 8342 Eastern Amateur Hockey League fans at Madison Square Garden.

Washington's loose defense allowed the Rovers to take a 2-to-1 lead in the first period, and make it 4 to 3 after two periods of play.

A four-goal last period, in which Roland LaMire scored twice, was too much for the Lions to overcome, though they tallied three times themselves.

Al Smith, Lions' speedy center, pulled the hat-trick, while Doug Carrigan, Rovers' rugged left winger. did likewise for the winners.

While Doug Carrigan was in the brig, Washington scored two of its goals, Smith netting the disk at 15:22 and Jimmy Wilson at 15:35 of the final frame.

These were Washington's final goals and brought the Lions to within one tally of a tie. Wilson scored another goal in the second period on a pass from Frank Long at 16:37.

Allan Percival and Jack McIntyre got the othe rtwo Washington goals, while Roland Lamire got a pair for the Rovers, and Harry Groves, Jack Mann and Hank Damore got the remainder of the New York goals.

The two teams will meet again tomorrow night, 8:30 o'clock, at Uline Arena, Washington, D. C.

Lions.		Rovers.
Francis	Goal	Harney
McClelland	L.D.	Bell
Dorn	R.D.	Mann
Smith	Center	Damore
Wilson	R.W.	Wharton
Percival	L.W.	Carrigan

Lions	1	2	4—7
Rovers	2	2	4—8

First period: 1, Rovers, Carrigan (Wharton-Bell), 0:33; 2, Lions, Smith (McIntyre-Kusmanski), 18:11; 3, Rovers, Mann (Ross), 18:40.

Second period: 4, Rovers, Carrigan (Wharton-Bell), 7:46; 5, Rovers, Damore (Carrigan-Mann), 12:26; 6, Lions, Smith (Percival-McIntyre), 14:26; 7, Lions, Wilson (Long), 16:37.

Third period: 8, Lions, Percival (McClelland-Smith), 0:11; 9, Rovers, Carrigan (Wharton-Mann), 2:24; 10, Lions, McIntyre (Smith-Percival), 7:32; 11, Rovers, Lamire (Ross-Mann), 12:23; 12, Rovers, Groves (Lamire), 12:58; 13, Rovers, Lamire (Drummond-Groves), 13:28; 14, Lions, Smith (Wilson-Percival), 15:22; 15, Lions, Wilson (McClelland-McIntyre), 15:35. Penalties—Carrigan (high sticking), Mann (tripping).

Spares: Lions—Phillips, Long, Nicowski, Kusmanski, McIntyre; Rovers—Lamire, Mason, Groves, Ross, Drummond.

Blues Primed To Even Score With Grays

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 24 (AP).—A power packed team of Northern All-Stars dug in for heavy practice today, determined to even the score with the South in next Saturday's renewal of the annual Blue-Gray football classic.

The Rebels have won three of the five games in the series, which began in 1939, and the other two decisions went to the Northerners. War conditions interfered with last year's contest, and fans saw instead a battle between boys' high schools of Atlanta and Meridian, Miss. The Georgians won, 13 to 0.

The North drew first blood when the series was inaugurated on January 2, 1939, walking off with a 7-to-0 victory. The Southern team bounced back on ecember 30 of the same year and evened the count with a 33-to-20 decision.

The Yankee team squeezed by a 14-12 verdict in 1940, and has not won or even scored since. The southerners gained a 16-0 victory in 1941 and won 24-0 the following year.

Two of the three coaches who have guided the North team since the start of the series—Carl Snavely of Cornell and Lynn Waldorf of Northwestern—are back this year. Third member of their staff is Indiana's Bo McMillan, who replaced Bert Ingwersen of Northwestern. Ingwersen is now athletic director of the North Carolina Navy Preflight school.

The southern squad, however, has changed coaches each year and for the 1944 game will have Wally Butts of Georgia, Claude (Little Monk) Simons of Tulane and Carl Voyles of Auburn.

Caliente Watches U. S. Developments

San Diego, Calif., Dec. 23 (AP).—James Crofton, who holds a lease for racing at the Agua Caliente, Mex., race track, today said he did not know what effect the Government's new policy on horse racing would have on the border track. "We are watching developments, but it is too early to make a definite statement," Crofton said.

Racing was suspended at Caliente last week after the Mexican Government took possession of the property for the Arguello heirs. Crofton had announced racing would be resumed December 31, but since the change in control resumption has been made uncertain because of litigation over the $3,000,000 property.

Indoor Singles Lure Big Fields

New York, Dec. 24 (AP).—The Eastern Junior Indoor Tennis Championships, December 26-30 at the 69th Regiment Armory, attracted 31 players for the boys' singles as compared with 19 a year ago, and 26 for the junior singles against 27 in 1943.

Sidney Schwartz, of Brooklyn, winner of last year's boys singles, was seeded No. 1. Other seeded stars in the boys' list are Ted Rubin, of Baltimore, No. 2; Herbert Schwartz, of New York, No. 3; and 13-year-old Alan Fischl, of Long Island City, 4th. Top seeded in the junior singles was Alan S. Watson, of Short Hills, N. J.

Tropical Park Will Start Shortest Race Meet, 8 Days

Miami, Fla., Dec. 24 (AP).—Tropical Park will stage its classiest inaugural program tomorrow—to open its shortest horse race meeting.

A cad featuring two $7500 events was aranged yesteday before the Federal Government cracked down on racing with a request that all tracks close by January 3.

Deciding to beat the ban by squeezing in eight days of activity, the track stood fast on the elaborate inaugural plans which attracted the speediest sprinters now in training.

Twenty-seven thoroughbreds were named for the $7500 Inaugural Handicap, causing the 6-furlong event to be split into two divisions and the prize money to be doubled.

Okapi Lancer Favored

Apheim Stable's Okapi Lancer, which established a track record while winning during the Gulfstream Park meeting that ended yesterday, probably will be the public favorite in the first division.

The competition will include Woolford Farm's fast-stepping gray mare, Silvestra and Challenge Me, winner of last year's Arkansas Derby and one of the advance favorites in the Kentucky Derby.

In the second division, Mrs. M. J. Wolfson's Smart Bet will go after his eighteenth victory of 1944, and no doubt will be the heaviest backed horse in the field of 13.

Smart Bet's winnnig record is the best established by any racer this year.

The classy Signator may dispute the issue with Smart Bet, while there is sure to be support for Harvard Square and Sophocles, the latter a winner at Gulfstream.

Horse Owners Stunned

Still stunned by the news that the sport will be closed until war conditions brighten, most of the owners, trainers and handlers of the 2000 horses stranded in the Miami area had not decided yet on their plans.

In deciding to go ahead with only eight programs of a scheduled 20-day meeting, Tropical Park officials said they did so in order to help the horsemen as much as possible.

Albert Sabath and Jseph Murphy, representatives of the Horsemen's Beinevolent Association, will meet track officers tomorrow to decide whether an extra race might be conducted each day with all proceeds going toward relief.

Santa Anita Halts Plans for Meeting

Aracadia, Calif., Dec. 24 (U.P.).—Long-faced jockeys and trainers at Santa Anita Race Track, due to reopen Saturday for its first meeting since Pearl Harbor, agreed tonight that a decision of track officials to call off the projected 55-day meeting was the "only thing to do" in the face of the Byrnes anti-horse racing order.

The Los Angeles Turf Club called off the meet last night upon receipt of the appeal from James F. Byrnes, War Mobilization Director. The California Horse Racing Board promptly agreed to the club's request that the season permit be rescinded.

In calling off the meet entirely, a club spokesman said that "Santa Anita is most mindful of the great inconvenience and loss suffered by the horsemen who already have many horses at the track."

A suggestion that a three-day meet be held, starting Saturday and continuing until the ban formally took effect, was dropped because officials said "Director Byrnes indicated that immediate response would be appreciated.

Fishing Held Battle Cure For Veterans

Fishing and hunting are precisely what the doctor ordered for the frayed nerves of returning war veterans, and a congessional group intends to see that they get plenty of both.

A House committee on conservation of wildlife has just completed a two-year study and will introduce legislation next month.

"Our immediate objective will be to help ease the nerve strain of about 10,000,0000 fighting men who must be rehabilitated inside as well as outside," Chairman Robertson (D. Va.) told the Associated Press yesterday.

After the first World War, interest in hunting and fishing increased 30 per cent, and Robertson anticipates a jump as high as 50 per cent this time.

"Our first problem is that of sufficient public hunting grounds," Robertson said. "We've got 175 million acres of national forest land but it needs to be improved by restocking and bettering feed conditions."

Other Robertson ideas:

Marginal and submarginal land of the millions of acres acquired by the Government for war purposes should be retained for fishing and hunting on a cooperative basis between Federal and State Governments.

An educational program to teach farmers the proper relationship between soil, water and wildlife should be started in the public schools, land grant colleges and extension services.

Hunting and fishing areas covered by projects proposed in the immense flood control bill now before Congress should be open t the pulic.

One point on which there is no worry: The number of ducks in the country, an estimated 150 million, highest in 25 years; also more deer, elk, antelope, pheasants and wild turkeys.

Dark spots: Fishing, due to new types of pollution produced by war, and fact that State and Federal hatcheries have curtained programs; also fewe quail, moose, mountain sheep and grouse.

A's, Phils Comply With War Changes

Philadelphia, Dec. 24 (AP).—Philadelphia's American and National baseball league entries announced willingness today to comply with any Government ruling on professional baseball.

"We'll go along with any order if it'll help get our boys home," said Herb Pennock, general manager of the Phillies.

Roy Mack, Athletics' business manager, said "if they want us to stop we'll stop. If they want us to go along with what we have, we'll do that."

Va. College Cagers Idle This Week

Richmond, Va., Dec. 24 (AP).—Virginia college basketball teams will all be idle throughout this week but most of them will swing back into the campaign next week.

Two service contests are scheduled, Cheatham Annex Marines, who have broken even in two games with William and Mary, meeting the Richmond Army Air Base here Thursday and the Norfolk Navy Yard playing at Camp Peary on Friday.

Rickey Wants Own Grid Club For Brooklyn

By Carl Lundquist

New York, Dec. 24 (U.P.).—Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers and originator of "farm system" baseball, said today he "definitely was interested in obtaining a professional football franchise, but not in 1945."

Rickey's statement was prompted by reports that he would refuse to allow the Brooklyn Tigers of the National Football League, to use the facilities of Ebbetts Field next year, giving rise to the belief that the Dodgers may operate their own entry in one of the newly formed leagues.

Rickey said he was "surprised that the Tigers were thinking of not using Ebbets Field next year and that such a thought had not occurred to him.

"I think the world of Capt. Dan Topping, owner of the Tigers, and Tom Gallery, their general manager," he added, "and I feel sure they will be back with us next year.

"It's no secret that I would like to obtain a professional football franchise," Rickey said. "I have been thinking of it for years, even when I was in St. Louis. But I certainly don't plan now to have one next year."

Gallery said the Dodgers had offered the Tigers a one-year lease for 1945 and the terms were not satisfactory, indicating that he would like to make a deal for a long-term lease on Ebbets Field.

The Tigers, well backed financially by Topping, who reportedly has sunk upward of $500,000 in the club, are considered one of the pillars of the National League despite the fact that they have been a losing project for Topping and his wife, Sonja Henie.

It is known that Rickey conferred with John (Chick) Meehan, organizer of the newly formed and as yet non-operative Trans-America football league which plans franchises in Honolulu as well as this country.

Rickey also was reported to have asked if the Tigers were for sale, an indication that he would not be adverse to operating a club in the National Football League.

Gallery, admitting that Rickey had a right to do as he pleased with Ebbets Field, asid the Tigers would protect their interests and if pushed out of the Dodger park, would attempt to make arrangements for operation in another location.

Horsemen Stunned By Shutdown, Says Md. Racing Head

Edward D. Talbert, president of the Maryland Horsemen's Protective Association, made the following statement yesterday relative to the ban on racing:

"Horsemen ar stunned by this sudden ruling. The war effort, however, must come first and every owner and trainer assepts this verdict as a sacrifice required of patriotic American. They are confident that the discrimination as against other amusements and sports events will nat be required longer than the Government feels is absolutely necessary."

Talbert represents in the association upwards of 1000 trainers and owners who have been strongly hit by the ruling.

Canadiens Fail to Get Goalie Paul Bibeault

Montreal, Dec. 23. (U.P.).—Manager Paul Thompson, of the last-place Chicago Blackhawks of the National Hockey League, said today that all negotiations for the purchase of Paul Bibeault, Montreal Canadian goalie, have fallen through and "we have decided to go along with Mike Karakas."

Thompson, whose team has won only three games his year, said that he had discussed other player deals with the Canadiens but nothing definite had been decided.

Future Vague For Baseball, Pro Football

By Ted Meier

New York, Dec. 24 (AP).—The status of wartime professional sports in the United States was thrown into jeopardy on Saturday by a Government order directing race tracks to shut down by January 3 and calling upon draft boards to review immediately the classification of men engaged in professional athletics.

The directive that caused consternation in the sports world was issued by War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes. He asked racing a billion dollar industry in 1944, including flat, harness and dog racing, that contributed more than 56 million dollars in State taxes, to close up to "prevent the use of critical materials, services and transportation . . . until war conditions permit."

Difficult to Understand

Declaring that he had the approval of President Roosevelt, Byrnes asserted that in view of the "existing war situation" is was difficult for him and for the public to understand how men can be physically unfit for military service and "yet be able to compete with the greatest athletes of the nation in games demanding physical fitness."

In a letter to Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service Director, Byrnes said that because of the manpower shortage serious consideration should be given to "recalling these men into the armed services or where they have not heretofore been inducted, calling them for another physical examination." Hershey replied he had directed local draft board to review the status of all pro athletes.

(Neither Byrnes, nor Hershey mentioned college sports and it was uncertain how their future would be affected.)

The racing world responded promptly that it would cooperate to the utmost. The Los Angeles Turf Club which had expected to reopen Santa Anita Park on December 30 abandoned plans for any racing whatever. Tropical Park in Florida, scheduled to open tomorrow, said it would operate through January 3, then down. The Fair Grounds at New Orleans, which opened a winter meeting on Saturday, said it also would operate only through January 3.

Race Tracks Cooperate

Typical of the reaction in racing circles was the comment of Col. Matt Winn, head of Churchill Downs at Lounsville, scene of the Kentucky Derby.

"There is onl yone thing to do," he said, "And that's to obey the boss. Things must be pretty serious for the Government to take such action and we should follow every instruction. As for the Derby we have several months to make a decision and things might clear up somewhat before then."

Herbert Bayard Swope, chairman of the New York State Racing Commission, and heads of such major tracks as Hialeah, Garden State, Pimlico, Delaware, Suffolk Downs, Rockingham, Arylington, Washington Park and Bay Meadows all pledged 100 per cent cooperation.

"Racing everywhere will comply instantly with regulations which Washington authorities regard as being helpful to winning the war," Swope said. "That is our only business."

Meantime authorities announced racing would continue at the Hipodrome De Las Americas in Mexico City and at Oriental Park in Havana, Cuba. In London, where horse and dog tracks have operated throughout the war, Britons expressed surprise at the crackdown on American tracks.

Dwindling personnel that probably will result by a recheck of 4-F's and discharged soldiers might curtail major league baseball, professional football and boxing in 1945, but for the most part the top figures in these sports were noncommittal.

Would Ask No Favors

Baseball recalled the late Commissioner Landis' declaration of two years ago that the "game would ask no favors and would continue as long as nine men could be put on a field" and was hopeful conditions would change by spring training time.

Abe J. Greene, president of the National Boxing Association, asserted "if sacrifices are needed boxing will and should not be found wanting."

Elmer Layden, commissioner of the National Pro Football League, said "anytime anyone is for military duty there is no question in our minds but that he should. . . . If we felt we were interfering with or retarding the war we would have quit long ago."

The National Hockey League was expected to be greatly affected since most of the players are Canadians and are subject to strict supervision of the Dominion government before being permitted to play.

Bookies to Rely On Cage, Baseball

New York, Dec. 24 (AP).—New York betting commissioners indicated last night that the closing of the country's race tracks will transfer the high volume of off-track wagering with "bookies" to results of basketball, football and baseball games as well as on "the numbers."

It is estimated that money bet away from the tracks during 1944 exceeded the $1,126,308,645 poured into the Nation's legalized parimutuel machines.

'Lil' Jockey Kelley Big Headache to Nazis

Camp Carson, Colo., Dec. 24 (INS).—Pfc. Donald G. Kelley, 24, of Milwaukee, Oreg., former widely-known jockey, weighs only 112 pounds soaking wet, but he was more than a mite of dynamite in the North Africa, Sicily, Italy and France paratroop invasions.

This was disclosed tonight by Army officials at the Camp Carson Convalescent Hospital, where Kelley, now a wearer of the Soldiers' Medal and the Purple Heart, is a patient.

Before entering the Army, Kelley won two $50,000 purses, along with many others, while riding at Santa Anita, Hollywood Park, Del Mar, Tanforan, Bay Meadows and Tijuana for the Hawthorne and Double H. Stables.

Kelley admitted that riding the waves with the paratroopers was a "bit more work" than speeding down the home stretch on a race horse. When he jumped as a paratrooper, he toted half his own weight on his back.

Kelley fought from the beachhead up to Palermo, at Salerno, up to the Volturno River, at Anzio and on D-Day in Normandy, where he was one of the first paratroopers to land.

"I fought for about four days in Normandy before they finally got me," the little former jockey said. "A shell burst nearby and I got some shrapnel in my leg. I was a little dazed. Later they discovered that I had a brain concussion. That sorta concluded my activities for awhile."

He belongs to the "Fighting Kelley." Twin brothers, as small as he, are with the Thirty-fifth Division in Germany. An older brother, a captain, is with a combat engineer outfit in the same area.

Postscripts

By Dick Wyatt

When Bob Spears, 15-year-old son of Dr. Clarence W. Spears, head football coach at Maryland, suffered a broken leg while playing for his high school several weeks ago, the good doctor said, "The ironic touch is that I talked Bob's coach out of playing him as I blocking back to guard against shoulder injury. So he plays end and suffers a broken leg." . . . Addie Bassin, former all-High gridder at Coolidge, is a member of Mount St. Mary's College basketball team . . . Addie, also, starred for the Saints on the gridiron and in baseball last spring . . . Cadet Henry Harman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter P. Harman, Takoma Park, has been elected manager of the 1945 cross country team at the United States Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn. . . . Cadet Harman is a second classman and his class will receive commissions in June, 1946 . . . Joe Holman, sports publicist, is to be congratulated on another fine piece of work . . . His latest book of verse, "Home Folks," is off the press and represents one of his best efforts . . . We hope Joe, 6-foot-5-inch, 270-pound Fayettsville, Tenn., product, sells a million copies.

HARMAN

Lieut. Joseph Mickey, U.S.N.R., a star guard on the undefeated Georgetown football team of 1939 and a 1941 graduate, now is executive officer of the Amphibious Flotilla Operations Office at an overseas base, after participating in D-day invasions . . . Lieut. Leonard Sokel, who played baseball for George Washington, where he was graduated in 1943, is now somewhere in the South Pacific and recently led his unit nine to an island championship. . . . In one game he drove in four runs with two doubles . . . His team won, 4-3. . . . Charley Ethridge of College Park and Don Bazemore of Alexandria have been selected on the all-Virginia prep football team. . . Ethridge, playing for Hargrave Military Academy, is a tackle, and Bazemore, on the Augusta M. A. team, is a guard. . . Pvt. Lew Hanbury, one of the District's leading welterweights when he entered the Armed Services some months ago, was married last week to Agnes Sprosser. . . Lew is home on a furlough from Fort Lewis, Wash.

John Townsend, former all-American at Michigan, and S. F. Traino, former Penn State star, are members of the Fort Belvoir basketball team. . . So are Lieut. Herbert Bergman, formerly of Georgia Tech, and Corpl. Bill Bezubic, former star of the Trenton American League five. . . . The Camp Lee eleven, which won only 4 of 9 games, outdrew every major college and service team in Virginia this year with 93,400. . . Marine Pfc. Don Curl, writing for the Camp Lejeune Globe calls basketball "The game of shoot and holler foul."

Hagerstown Buys Player

Hagerstown, Md., Dec. 24 (AP).—Stephen Sloboda has been purchased from the Williamsport, Pa., club of the Eastern League by Owner Oren E. Sterling to play shortstop for the Hagerstown Cwls of the Interstate League this coming baseball season.

Bookies Fear Evil of Work Is Upon Them

Baltimore, Dec. 23 (AP).—Even with horse racing temporarily suspended, Lieut. Alexander Emerson, head of the Baltimore police department's vice squad, and the bookmakers can't agree.

The bookmakers say they are afraid they will have to go to work.

The lieutenant says he is afraid they won't.

"The suspension will send a few of these men into the war plants," Emerson predicted, "but the smarters will never work as long as there is a soft dollar to be had.

"They'll think up 1000 things. If you put them in jail, they'd make book on the color of the automobiles passing beneath their windows."

However, Emerson said he felt his job would be easier because of the suspension.

"The bookies won't be as big now," he said. "I think we'll put the maul away. We can probably handle the boys with chisels from now on."

He noted that there was still racing in Mexico.

Some of the bookmakers themselves professed to have accepted the suspension more philosophically than Lieutenant Emerson had anticipated.

One Baltimore bookmaker said that half of the city's bookies had legitimate enterprises, such as taverns, barbershops and pool rooms, to fall back on. The other half, he said, would have to go to work.

"As a matter of fact," he continued, "the bookmakers should be happy the Government waited this long before halting the races.

To my mind, horse races are the greatest cause of war plant absenteeism in the country."

Ace Freeman On Paralysis Mat Fund Card

A fourth grapple closed for the Turner Arena bill Wednesday night, a benefit for the President's Infantile Paralysis fund, will feature Ace Freeman, one of the game's most scientific matmen, against Maurice La Chappelle, popular Frenchman.

For the second straight week, Promoter Joe Turner is featuring the grappling gals with Violet Valentine, sensational winner over Nell Stewart last week, meeting Ann La Verne and Elvira Snodgrass, celebrated hillbilly "villian," facing Mae Young, the "Blond Bombshell."

The main men's match on the all-star array lists Angelo Savoldi, rough New Englander, against "Dutch" Rohde.

A percentage of the receipts will be turned over by Turner to the national sports committee for the Infantile Paralysis Fund. Promoters throughout the land annually stage a show at this time to assist the fund.

Athletics, Yanks Play Exhibition Game April 5

Frederick, Md., Dec. 24 (AP).—The Philadelphia Athletics, who will begin spring training here on March 12, will play an exhibition game with the New York Yankees on April 5 at McCurdy Field, it was announced by Earle Mack, assistant manager of the American League Club on a Frederick visit to complete arrangements.

Mack, son of Connie Mack, 82-year-old owner-manager of the Athletics, said about 50 players and coaches will report. The Athletics will remain here until April 14. He said the coaching staff has not yet been completed.

Exhibition games also are pending with the New York Giants, who are expected to train in Baltimore; the Toronto Maple Leafs, a Philadelphia farm club which will train in Hagerstown, and the Boston Braves, Mack announced.

Meagher to Coach Miami Pro Eleven

Miami, Fla., Dec. 24 (U.P.).—Harvey Hester, president of the Miami team of the All-America Football Conference, announced last night that Lieut. Comdr. John F. Meagher, head coach of the Iowa Preflight Seahawks, has signed to coach the Miami eleven.

Meagher signed a two-year contract, Hester said.

The All-America conference will swing into action after the war.

Welker Cochrane Has 23-Point Run

San Francisco, Dec. 24 (AP).—Welker Cochrane, nationally known three-cushion billiard star, established the second highest run in three-cushion billiards here yesterday in a match with Willie Flynn, when he ticked off 23 consecutive points.

The world's record consecutive run is held by Willie Hoppe who made 25 points in one run here about 10 years ago.

Fair Grounds

Entries

1—¾; $900; 3-year-olds up.

Lucky B.	113	Mister Big	119
Pete Jr.	111	Royal Lady	108
Chance Taker	114	Camp Liberty	111
Bordersman	113	Sunbo	124
Half Grand	114	Teddy's Shadow	110
Anytime	111	Dare	116
Bold Question	114		

2—¾; $900; 3-year-olds up.

Day Dodger	114	Neotriat	108
Truthful Bud	109	Iron Barge	114
My Scott	111	Heel Up	121
Attested	108	Bushel Basket	114
Restriction	111	Granlag	114
Yankee Notions	109	Capsicum	111
Poojo	108		

3—¾; $1000; maiden 3-year-olds up.

Routed	121	†Libbi Ann	118
Qunlina	118	Silver Toy	118
Tower Pet	121	Exotea	118
Sucyo	124	Nasty Heels	118
John Arc	121	True Barbara	118
Prado Son	121	Belobi	113
Shining Chance	121	Viva Voce	124
Sure Hit	116	Miss Champion	113
Linwood Linnie	118	†Play Kitty	121

†W. Wilkerson entry.

4—1 1/16; $800; 3-year-olds up.

Pari King	111	Bass Fiddle	117
San Francisco	111	Derivative	111
Giant Servant	109	Deni Sun	100
Big Rover	111	Justice Nap	114
Dr. Bones	111		

5—1-70; $1000; 3-year-olds up.

Sea Tack	113	Ragiestone	108
Tumult	113	Rockwood Lou	110
Valdivia	119	Troop Train	107
Always Flying	110	Triple Scotch	110

6—5½; $2500 added; all ages.

Oxie	105	†Reaping Glory	116
Happy Indian	107	Four Deep	109
Samborombon	114	†Brownie	122
Chipamink	112	Many Lands	108
Friend Bill	100	†Fox Brownie	114
Captain Eddie	105	Sameron	108
Espino Gold	105	†Defense	114
Bolo Tie	110		

†Mrs. H. F. Bonner entry.
‡J. Brown entry.

Christmas Table Tennis Tourney Set Wednesday

The District Table Tennis Association will hold its Christmas tournament Wednesday, December 27, 7:30 p. m., at Columbia courts, 330 14th st. nw.

Events are men's, women's, junior, and boy's singles, and men's doubles. For information call Burch at Chestnut 3855.

7—1 1/16; $800; 3-year-olds up.

Valdina Vicar	115	Pony Express	113
Redrock Canyon	115	Patay T.	105
Restoration	107	Tom Wade Jr.	120
Conowingo	110	Glenwood Boy	107

8—1 1/16; $800; 3-year-olds up.

Rolla Day	111	Kate's Silver	108
Burning Chips	111	Epois	111
Tom's Ladd	114	Musical Mood	103
High Flaid	111	Hardwrack	111
Extend	111	Broom Time	105

FAIR GROUNDS SELECTIONS (Fast)
1—Sunby, Anytime, Dare.
2—Day Dodger, Bushel Basket, Poojo.
3—Play Kitty, Routed, Viva Voce.
4—Dr. Bones, Justice Nap, Bass Fiddle.
5—Troop Train, Tumult, Rockwood Lou.
6—BROWNIE, Chipamink, Samborombon.
7—Pony Express, Restoration, Conowingo.
8—Burning Chips, High Flaid, Epois.
—Louisville Times (AP).

Post Consensus

AT TROPICAL PARK
1—Tyrone, Miola, Pipeliner.
2—MISS JO JO, Dansation, Proof Coil.
3—Peace Flight, Lucky Lass, Pharamonda.
4—Five-Thirty, Tetrel, Wemite.
5—Opening Bid, Forevic, Puffed Up.
6—Okapi Lancer, Alfies, Challenge Me.
7—Smart Bet, Dantmas, Sophocles.
8—Playful Pal, Pistol Pete, Adventurous.
9—Straw Stack, Parlay King, Lassagria.

Tropical Park

Entries

1—¾; $1200; 3-year-olds up.

Short Life	114	Picket Line	112
Our Damsel	106	Nibble	107
Nilon	103	Tyrone	114
Frontier Jane	114	Kalamazoo	104
Miola	115	Unitran	112
Pipeliner	112	Jackina	112
Tennessee Maid	109	Listing	114
Treemontier	112	Mill Briar	111
Rose Mountain	117	Tom Boy	111

2—¾; $1500; 3-year-olds up.

Proof Coil	115	Overtime	112
Little Bunny	117	Dansation	120
Staters	115	Black Shot	112
See Bee Bee	120	Rocky Carse	115
Valdina Clown	117	Four Tens	115
O'Balladier	120	Miss Jo Jo	109
Creamy	114	Carbon Black	112
Pink Dawn	107	Friend or Foe	115
Canee	114		

3—5½; $1300; maiden 2-year-olds.

Miss Balladier	117	Lady Apple	112
Two Ten	117	Babiana	117
Flexico	117	Janet Ragland	117
Borjean	117	Outlandish	117
Pharamonda	117	Fall Flight	117
Lucky Lass	117	Army Cycle	117
Musicale	112	Peace Flight	117
High East	112	Ringet	116

4—¾; $1200; 2-year-olds.

Wemite	113	Chanke Fair	110
Tetrol	108	Darby Diedre	105
John Q. Public	117	Run Bud Run	112
Miss Observer	105	Rockwood Argo	116
Omalias	108	Quemazon	108
Sunwise	105	John's Bird	115
Service Ribbon	112	Abrego	116
Valdina Bina	112	Joliette	116
Five-Thirty	108	Florida Breeze	102

5—1-70; $1500; 3-year-olds.

Misty Mark	110	Forevic	111
Layout	104	Bowling Green	111
Gusher	111	Pilfted Up	107
Mr. Monk	111	Reaping Gold	104
Kengar	111	Strolling Easy	108
Gullah	99	Pida	107
Hadamoon	106	Mag's Game	111
Opening Bid	112	My Maicha	104
Nediana	111	Winter Rules	108

6—¾; $7500 added; 3-year-olds up.

Uncle Jock	112	Offenbach	119
Tidy Reward	108	Johnny Jr.	119
Challenge Me	118	Ratlen Scotch	116
Alfios	118	Belreigh	118
Silvestra	110	Quien Es	117
Quilion	116	Okapi Lancer	119
He Rolls	115	Kopis	114

7—¾; $7500 added; 3-year-olds up.

Fire Power	112	Dora Dear	113
Dustman	120	Smart Bet	124
Freeland's Lad	116	Good Bid	118
Sophocles	120	Dartaway	110
Signator	115	Harvard Square	122
Jimmie	115	Hasteville	119
Charter Member	114		

8—1 1/16; $1500; 3-year-olds up.

Pistol Pete	116	Hubbub	109
Adventurous	106	Playful Pal	113
Adviser	109	Tide Over	109
Scot's Bill	105	Satin Nose	106
Valdina Brave	105		

9—1 1/16; $1300; 4-year-olds up.

Alca Gal	109	Nebraska	114
Discouraged	108	Parlay King	114
Song Spinner	111	Troth	108
Grey Squire	114	Lassagria	108
Flying Junior	114	Jack's Pride	112
Syrian Boy	114	Straw Stack	115

TROPICAL PARK SELECTIONS (Fast)
1—Tyrone, Frontier Jane, Our Damsel.
2—Dansation, Four Tens, Staters.
3—Peace Flight, Pharamonda, Lucky Lass.
4—Run Bud Run, John Q. Public, Rockwood Argo.
5—Strolling Easy, Gullah, Opening Bid.
6—Okapi Lancer, Challenge Me, Johnny Jr.
7—Sophocles, Smart Bet, Dantmas.
8—ADVENTUROUS, Playful Pal, Satin Nose.
9—Straw Stack, Nebraska, Alca Gal.
—Louisville Times (AP).

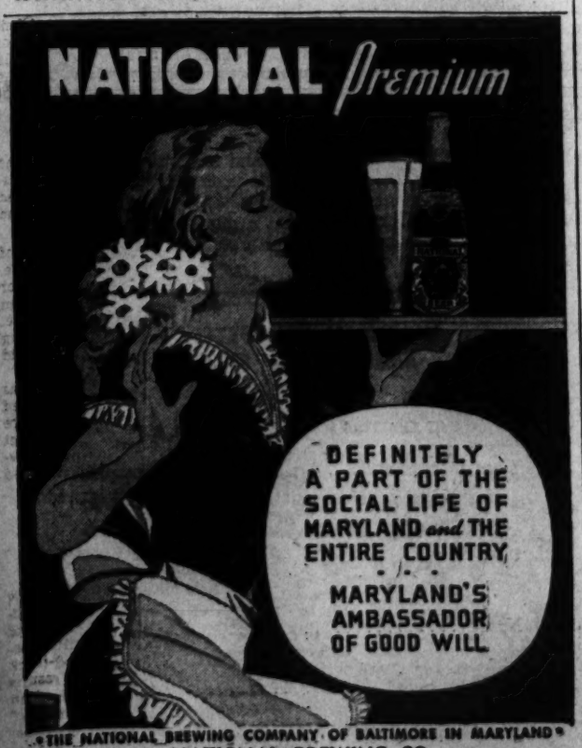
On the Line . . .

Continued from Page 6.

body in great mellow sprits. . . . I've one little regret: when I got hit I lost my only souvenir, a German pistol. But I don't mind too much, as all I want of this war is a faint recollection.

"Dad, I guess there's been a lot in the papers of late on what to do with Germany after the war. I'm afraid the people back home may want to go easy. I think the GI's who've been fighting them should be consulted. We'd know. I've seen four Heinies waving a white flag and then, when a lieutenant and two men went down to pick them up as prisoners the Heinies threw a hand grenade, wounding all threee of our men.

"We killed all four of the Jerries. I've seen other Heinies deliberately shoot at our medics when they went out to treat the wounded, even though the medics were plainly marked with Red Cross armbands. Yes, we frontline Joes know what should be done with Germany—it should be almost wiped out as a political reality. Every German should be punished for either carrying out Hitler's crimes or standing for them . . . I sent you my Purple Heart today . . . Lots of love. . . . Don't worry."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Mary Haworth's Mail

Treated as Family Pest in Childhood, Girl, at 19, Still Carries Heavy Load Of Inferiority Feelings; Asks Advice

DEAR MARY HAWORTH: I am a girl 19, the youngest of four children. The other three are married. Our parents were foreign-born. As a child, I was shy and quiet, not much interested in play, and very attached to my father. I never had special chums and seldom brought my friends home, because mother always seemed to get aggravated. She worked all the time and I guess she was tired. Father died when I was 13, and after that, it seemed I was on my own.

My elder sister and two brothers, being much the same age, always went around together. They always looked on me as "the little sister," never seeming to realize that I was growing up, too, as time went by. I was never included in things they did, because I was too young. If I wanted to do something on my own, they would laugh in a mocking kind of way and say I couldn't do it. Also, they always said I was too spoiled, due to being the youngest. If I wanted something, they would stress the fact that when they were my age, they never had such things, etc. If I tried to confide in them, they would say I was forever complaining. Mother felt the same way. So I lost any self confidence that I might otherwise have had.

Office Work Lifts Spirits

AT 16, I graduated from high school and went to work as a secretary-stenographer, a job I have held ever since. This experience has done me worlds of good; and the family seems to realize, at last that I am growing up. Also, with my two brothers and my brother-in-law now in the army, my mother, sister and I are closer together. My sister now includes me in practically everything she does; but still I have an inferiority complex. Why? Because my sister is always drawing comparisons between herself and me,—as if to say that she is just right, and I don't quite measure up. I don't know whether she does this intentionally; or whether she is unconscious of the fact that she is hurting me, the way she sometimes can.

I never seem to act right. I either act too old or too young; I laugh or talk too much or not enough. Lots of times, when we're in the company of others, my sister (jokingly) says things about me that make me wish I had never been born. Please don't get the idea that I'm feeling sorry for myself. I'm not. I'm disgusted with myself, for not knowing how to cope. What can I do to develop self confidence and stand on my own two feet? Should I just ignore her attitude? It is awfully hard to pretend you don't notice something that hurts; but if you think it would help, I am more than willing to try. Thanks so much. I. M.

Pain Teaches; Why Not Learn?

DEAR I. M.: The purpose of pain is to teach,—so why don't you stop sticking your hand in the fire? What's the sense in bidding for boon companionship (never to be achieved) with a sister who is no more like you than a cabbage is like a rose? Why not leave her to her complacent assumption that she is cast in the mold of perfection; and that the only admirable people are those she heartily approves;—and strike out to row your own canoe in the social stream?

While no two individuals are ever created identical in taste, temperament and personality, most of us live to learn that there is such a thing as "natural attraction" between ourselves and certain others who comfortably complement our ways of thinking and doing; and this being so, I can imagine no greater waste of emotional energy than trying to imitate,—or otherwise mutilate our individuality to fake conformity to,—those we happen to be thrown with, who are fundamentally unlike ourselves and antipathetic toward us.

Self-Esteem Is Magnetic

THE power of natural attraction is latent in all; but is exercised strongly only by those who, like your sister, confidently place a high evaluation on their own stamp of individuality; who feel no desire, when viewing the human scene, to be other than their own true self; who wouldn't trade their own personality, with all its possibilities, for any other that God ever made; and who in general keep faith with their own inner sense of individual soul sovereignty, in charting the course of their "being and doing."

The best armor against teasing criticism is the free joyous feeling of being robustly one's self. Your sister's barbs cut you to the heart for the reason that you know, by instinct if not consciously, that you are laying yourself open to mocking, disadvantageous comparisons. You are tensely misspending your energies trying to be like her and her friends, instead of being boldly and honestly yourself,—and the only result produced is a woebegone caricature of the type you are trying to copy. So my advice is,—Be yourself; and be glad of your difference from your sister. Become so much yourself that the power of natural attraction will bring you and your own kind quickly together, and thus kiss goodbye to the wasted years when you made a family pest of yourself, with your hangdog, tag-along tactics. M. H.

Mary Haworth counsels through her column; not by mail or personal interview. Write her in care of The Post.

Harris & Ewing

MAKING HER BOW yesterday afternoon was Miss Eloise Richberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Richberg, at a reception at home, the fete also serving to celebrate Mr. and Mrs. Richberg's wedding anniversary

Cezch Envoy In New York For Christmas

The Ambassador of Czechoslovakia and Mme. Hurban are in New York for the holiday season and will spend Christmas with Mme. Hurban's mother, Mrs. Bo-Zelma Boor. They will return to Washington after the New Year.

On December 30 at a reception organized by the Masaryk Institute of New York, Ambassador Hurban will present the Czechoslovak state prize for literature to Prof. Harrison F. Thompson of the University of Colorado for his book, "Czechoslovakia in European History." The award is a statuette called "The Wounded," and is the composition of a well-known Czechoslovak artist.

Before leaving for New York, the Ambassador and Mme. Hurban went to Camp Lee to attend the graduation ceremonies on Friday of Mme. Hurban's brother as a second lieutenant.

Eleanor Potts To Make Bow

Joining Capital debutantes, now in the social spotlight, is Miss Eleanor Potts of Shepherdstown, W. Va., daughter of Llewellyn Potts of that city, who will make her debut in New York at a tea on December 30 and who will be honored again on New Year's Day.

In her honor, Mrs. Henry Shepherd of Georgetown and her daughter, Miss Mary McLean Shepherd, a sophomore at Vassar, will entertain Wednesday at luncheon at the Mayflower.

Miss Shepherd and Miss Potts attended Cathedral School together, the latter now being a freshman at Sweet Briar. Miss Shepherd will attend the debut parties in New York for Miss Potts.

Town Talk—

José de Lasa Deserts Us for Cuba; Mrs. James Houghteling Has New Activity

By Eva Hinton

THERE is a young man of 6 in Washington on whom the impact of first school days and sacred studies has produced a fondness for Biblical phrases. Whenever he is scolded for his errors or finds himself in a jam he says benignly, "I'm the most marvelous boy! I'm most marvelous and clad in fresh raiment!"

This has proved slightly irritating to his parents and nurse when an expression of contrition was more in order. So, one night, after hearing his prayers his father asked him just why he repeats the words so often.

"You see, daddy," said the young philosopher," it's just a joke I have to encourage myself."

And now, in the words of that small boy, may I wish that every reader of this column may be, on Christmas day, "most marvelous and clad in fresh raiment!"

A Cuban Christmas with plenty of sunshine is the plan of popular Jose de Lasa of the Cuban Embassy, who accompanied his Ambassador to Havana just in time for Christmas Eve. The Ambassador, Guillermo Belt, presented his credentials at the White House immediately before his departure and will return to Washington with his family after the holidays. But Mr. de Lasa will take two months' leave, only returning here in March.

MRS. James Lawrence Houghteling is the new-elected president of the board of the Washington Home for Incurables. She will replace Mrs. Edward R. Finkenstaedt, who has resigned after seven years of tactful and devoted service.

Mrs. Houghteling is well known in Washington for her efficient work in good causes. She always does a big job for the Community War Fund, and the yearly Bryn Mawr College benefit knows her fine touch.

The home is desperately in need of linen, new and used. Sheets, towels, pillow-cases and bedspreads are wanted and even worn-out or torn ones are needed for dressings.

Having cared for the incurably ill of the District for so many years, the faithful workers at the home feel that their plea will not fall on deaf ears. War or peace, the care of the helpless must go on. Often whole families are released for war work when the care of an incurable-invalid member is provided.

Kindly leave bundles at the Washington Home for Incurables, 3720 Upton st., or telephone Woodley 3720 to have them picked up.

WHEN the George Renchards' two babies become of late-party age they will probably celebrate their birthdays together at midnight on December 17. Young Ronald Renchard's baby sister, Stella Mae, arrived just one day before his own first birthday.

Each year, on December 17, Stella Mae will be the same age as her brother for just one day. "I'm just as old as you are, so there!" will probably be her birthday motto until the years roll 'round and she prefers, "He's my older brother!"

Ellin Gudger Engaged to Wed Lieut. J. M. Parks

Mrs. Emmet Carlyle Gudger announces the engagement of her daughter, Ellin, to Lieut. (j. g.) James Milton Parks, Naval Air Transport Command, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas England Parks of Dallas, Tex., and Washington. The wedding will take place at 8:30 p. m. January 1 at the Sulgrave Club.

Miss Gudger is the daughter of the late Captain Gudger, USN, and the granddaughter of the late Senator Thomas J. Walsh. She was graduated from Friends School here and in 1941 from Mount Holyoke College. She was presented to society in Washington in the 1938-1939 season at a tea dance given by her parents and for the last three years has been in New York as a member of the Conover Model Agency.

Lieutenant Parks has just returned from the European theater of war. He is a graduate of Western High School and of Dartmouth College in the 1939 class. He is a member of Alpha Delt., Phi fraternity and Casque and Guantlet honorary society of Dartmouth.

His father has been with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for several years.

Here for Holidays With Gen. Ireland

Major Gen. and Mrs. Merritt W. Ireland have with them for Christmas week their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Paul M. Ireland, of Colorado, and her two sons, Cadet Paul M. Ireland, jr., second classman at West Point, and Cadet Merritt W. Ireland 2d of the New Mexico Military School.

Dr. Paul Ireland has been in the South Pacific since July, 1943.

Major Pash Cocktail Host

Maj. Robert A. Pash of the Canadian Joint Staff, was host at a cocktail party Thursday to welcome an old friend to Washington. He is Frank Hook, newly elected Representative in Congress from Wisconsin, who arrived in town Wednesday. He was accompanied by Mrs. Hook, who shared honors with her husband.

In the gathering were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Frank, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Schiefer, Dr. and Mrs. J. Frederick Wenchel, the Rev. and Mrs. Edwin H. Pruden, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Knollman, Maj. and Mrs. John Puck, Maj. and Mrs. George Rohrick, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fisher.

Also Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Juve, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Vogel, Mr. and Mrs. George Lautz and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Buck.

Party at Home of Rev., Mrs. Wilson

The Rev. and Mrs. Herman M. Wilson, of Gaithersburg, Md., will entertain at a family dinner party today.

Among their guests will be Dr. and Mrs. James W. Wilson of Bethesda, Md.; Mrs. Lillie E. Earnest and Miss Minnie Dillon of Mount Rainier, Md.; Allen M. Wilson of Washington, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Stephen of University Park, Md., and their son, Col. Frank M. Stephen, jr., home on leave from the United States Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Fla.; Miss Lucille Stephen and Miss Doris Stephen.

Commander to Wed Virginia Fritchman

Mr. and Mrs. Leon A. Fritchman, Chevy Chase, Md., formerly of Summit, N. J., announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Virginia Antrim Fritchman, to Lieut. Comdr. Alexander Marks, USN, son of Samuel Harrison Marks, and the late Mrs. Marks, of Washington.

Miss Fritchman attended the American School in Shanghai, China, and Kent Place School in Summit. She was graduated from Holton-Arms School here and is now attending Connecticut College for Women.

Commander Marks, now in the Pacific, was graduated from the United States Naval Academy, class of 1938, after preparing at the Bullis School, Takoma Park, Md.

Engagement Told

Mrs. Kennsett Daniel of Richmond, Va., who lived in Washington for many years, announces the engagement of her daughter, Warwick, to Master Sergt. James Tyler Fisher, USA, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin T. Fisher of Eastville, Va. The wedding will take place in the near future.

Christmas Eve Ushered In With Number of Fetes

By Marie McNair

A debut party, and "Welcome" signs out all over town at wreath-decked doorways, ushered in Christmas Eve; and the young and not so young made the rounds of half a dozen Yule fetes yesterday.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Richberg found their way out to their hospitable house in Spring Valley for the debut of the Richbergs' gay, young daughter, Eloise, home from Wellesley College for the holidays. Christmas Eve is a wedding anniversary for Mr. and Mrs. Richberg, and it's an annual custom of theirs to give a party on that day. This year, because their daughter wished it, they combined the two events, bringing about a happy mingling of parents and their children.

There was a cheerful air of informality on this occasion. The debutante, in a white taffeta halter-neck gown with blue sequin motifs at the wasit and on the tulle skirt, welcomed guests with her parents. Mrs. Richberg had chosen a pale blue crepe frock embroidered on the bodice with white beads, and wore white butterfly orchids pinned to her shoulder. Miss Richberg's bouquet was also of white orchids, but of the large variety.

Ladies taking their turn at the red and white candle-lit tea table were the best friends of both the hostess and her daughter and included Mrs. Ray Clapper, Mrs. James McHugh, Mrs. Edgar Goodrich, Mrs. Basil Manly, Mrs. Joseph Casey, Mrs. Al Warner, Mrs. Oliver P. Echols, Mrs. Henry Alvord, Mrs. George Warner and Mrs. Walter Nash. And the young girls who assisted were pretty Miss Richberg's oldest and closest friends.

Debutante Feted

Another young people's party yesterday was given by Miss Dorothea Drayton for Miss Olive Watson who was presented to society on Saturday, and many of the boys and girls home from school flocked to Miss Mary Frances Breeding's tea or to Miss Elizabeth Polk Benson's house in Chevy Chase—or to both.

Born in Washington and having lived here all her young life, Miss Breeding's friends, for the most part are also "old" Washingtonians.

From that category at the party yesterday were Miss Louise Sanderson, Miss Peggy Nairn, Miss Marianna Kyle, Miss Frances Barry, Miss Elizabeth Lyon, Miss Mary McLean Shepherd, Miss Margaret Mechlin, Miss Dorothy McIntosh, Miss Anne Feely.

Also, Miss Jean Ann Ferrier, Miss Peggy Shoemaker, Miss Lucille Camalier, Miss Betty Huidekoper, Miss Abby Willard, Miss Josephine Culbertson, Mrs. Ronald Cooleye, and a new found friend, Miss Margaret Thors, daughter of the Minister of Iceland and Mme. Thors.

Out on Charleston Terrace on a hill stands Dr. and Mrs. Tomas Cajigas' big white house. There's a man sized Santa Clause standing at the door; holly wreaths in all the windows.

Last night was the Cajigas traditional Christmas Eve buffet supper for their friends and the friends of their children, Tommy and Anita.

Visitors Here

Dr. and Mrs. Cajigas have with them their annual Christmas visitors—Dr. and Mrs. Willard Mason, Mr. and Mrs. B. O. Payne and Mrs. James McCallum, all of Ventnor, N. J., where the Cajigas have spent many summers. With them and a few additional close friends, the Cajigas left the young people at midnight for church services and the group returned for an early morning breakfast.

This year Anna Cajigas decided to turn the management of their party over to their children, except for the decorations of the house, which is always Mrs. Cajigas' special interest.

There is a tall tree in the hall; red, white and blue branches tied with silver ribbons winding up the stairway; a tiny shimmering tree dripping red and white candy canes on the piano; bowls of holly everywhere.

Helping the youthful host and hostess keeping things hummin' were Miss Nancy McEnerney, Miss Christine Mackey, Miss Virginia Stallings and Fred Harris.

ADVERTISEMENT ADVERTISEMENT ADVERTISEMENT ADVERTISEMENT ADVERTISEMENT

THE POLES ARE ALSO PEOPLE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

An open letter to the 1,326 signers of the

INTERNATIONAL BILL OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The International Bill of Human Rights, as drafted and signed by 1,326 distinguished Americans, published December 15, 1944, is hailed by the many thousands of Americans of Polish ancestry as a ringing expression of the sacred American spirit of liberty, true to the noblest democratic and humanitarian traditions of Jefferson, Lincoln, Wilson and Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

It is heartening to recall that on January 6, 1941, President Roosevelt in his message to the Congress said: "Freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere . . . ," while in his radio message to the American people and to the world, delivered on December 9, 1941, he stated: "The sources of international brutality, wherever they exist, must be absolutely and finally broken."

It was also with a feeling of sincere approval that we accepted the recent statements on postwar political order and religious freedom made by the Catholic Episcopate of America through the National Catholic Welfare Conference; a similar statement of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America; and finally climaxed in the International Bill of Human Rights, initiated by the American Jewish Committee.

These three all-important statements signify that all Americans, irrespective of creed, class, race or color, are united in their determination to continue the present struggle for true human freedom everywhere throughout the world.

Yet, on December 15, 1944, on the 150th anniversary of the signing of the American Bill of Rights, Prime Minister Winston Churchill proposed to destroy its basic principles, as well as those of the proposed International Bill of Human Rights, by depriving the peoples of Poland, the Baltic States and other lands of their birthright of freedom and liberty.

We, Americans whose fathers and mothers came from Poland, the land that has reared sons who have fought in the cause of freedom in every country in the world during the past 150 years, join with you in believing that no force of violence, cowardliness or opportunism must stand in the way to deter mankind from a full realization of the noble precepts of the International Bill of Human Rights . . .

. . . Poland not excepted

As sons of Poles, we appeal to you not to exclude the Polish people from the International Bill of Human Rights. No other people have suffered more, spilled their blood more, fought Nazism and Fascism more implacably than the Poles. Let this hard-pressed people, too, share the benefits of the International Bill of Human Rights.

But before you can include the people of Poland within the protective circle of the International Bill of Human Rights, it is essential, it seems to us, to consider the basic principles of a Bill of Rights in the face of the following inexorable facts and tendencies,

1. Annexation of one-half of Polish territory by Soviet Russia;
2. Imposition of totalitarian rule on this Polish territory, alien to the tradition and economy of its inhabitants.
3. Unlawful deportation of millions of citizens of Poland to Siberia and other remote regions of Soviet Russia, and the herding of countless men, women and children in concentration camps, continuing to the present day.
4. Abolition in annexed Polish territory of freedom of speech, association, assembly, collective bargaining—all guaranteed by Polish law;
5. Mass executions by Soviet authorities of Polish citizens; the murder of the Jewish Socialists, Alter and Ehrlich; mass hangings of officers of the Polish Home Army;
6. Open and cynical defiance of international pacts and treaties, to-wit: Treaty of Riga; Kellogg Pact; Soviet Non-Aggression Treaty with Poland and the Baltic States; Soviet-Polish Treaty of July 30, 1941; the Atlantic Charter, signed by Soviet Russia, January 1, 1942.
7. Unexplained interruption of the Soviet Army offensive on August 1, 1944, when the Warsaw Revolt, frequently urged by the Soviets, began; refusal of assistance to the Warsaw defenders during their 63-day resistance; refusal by Soviet Russia of bases on Polish territory to American, British and Polish airmen to relieve the doomed population of Warsaw; besmirching the honor of General Bor;
8. Destroying the basis of Polish independence by the formation of a puppet government for Poland at Lublin, composed of Soviet agents who wage a relentless war against the patriotic Polish Underground though this very Underground has never ceased to resist the Nazi invader, thus materially helping the Red Army in its westward march to Germany.

We respectfully submit that the noble principles enunciated in the International Bill of Rights can be realized only on the basis of honesty, truth and faith. It is impossible to speak of human ideals of freedom and liberty through one corner of the mouth, and at the same time aid and abet human bondage of a whole nation through the other corner by silence, indifference or tacit approval of "spheres of influence" and similar enslavement devices. Unless we have a manly and outspoken clarity of words and deeds, unless we understand the facts and remove those of them which bar our path to real and abiding human freedom, we shall not achieve the sacred purpose for which our sons are dying in this cruel war thrust upon us by totalitarian aggression. We shall have struggled and suffered in vain again, as we did in the first World War.

Earnestly believing that to fight for justice and to insure a lasting peace in the world is not solely a "Polish problem," we call upon our fellow Americans of all creeds and national origins to join with us in our peaceful effort to prevent a monstrous wrong from being perpetrated on the helpless Polish People.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF AMERICANS OF POLISH DESCENT, INC.
MEMBER, THE POLISH-AMERICAN CONGRESS
105 EAST 22nd STREET, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

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105 East 22nd St., New York 10, N. Y.

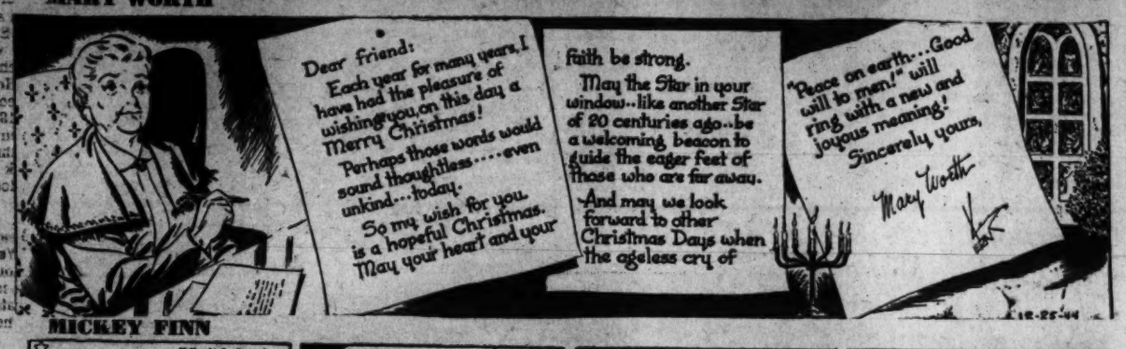
I am in agreement with the general principles and aims of your committee and would like to receive further information about your activities.

Name.....
Address.....
City.....Zone....State.....

TERRY

WHITE CHRISTMAS—HIMALAYAS VERSION ... QUITE BEAUTIFUL—EXCEPT FOR THE ZEROS AND ROCKS IN THE CLOUDS... AND THE DOWN DRAFTS... BUT THE RIGHT GUYS WHO PUSH OUR STUFF OVER THE HUMP TO CHINA WOULDN'T WANT TO WORRY YOU ON YOUR HOLIDAY... THAT'S WHY THEY ROCK IT... SO YOU CAN LOOK AT THE AMERICAN SKY AND SEE NOTHING MORE DANGEROUS THAN SNOW.....

MARY WORTH


Dear friend:
Each year for many years, I have had the pleasure of wishing you on this day a Merry Christmas!
Perhaps those words would sound thoughtless....even unkind...today.
So my wish for you is a hopeful Christmas. May your heart and your faith be strong.
May the Star in your window--like another Star of 20 centuries ago--be a welcoming beacon to guide the eager feet of those who are far away.
And may we look forward to other Christmas Days when the ageless cry of "Peace on earth...Good will to men!" will ring with a new and joyous meaning!
Sincerely yours,
Mary Worth

MICKEY FINN

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING WE WANT TO DO, TODAY!
AND MICHAEL IS GOING TO DO IT FOR US!
OKAY, MICKEY—GO AHEAD!
WE WANT TO WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

MYRTLE

DIXIE DUGAN

THIS IS MY MOTHER, MR. BEETLE
I INSISTED DIXIE BRING ME HOME TO MEET YOU—
ARE YOU RELATED TO THE BEETLE OF BEETLE'S BARGAIN BASEMENT?
I AM THE BEETLE
OH—YOU OWN IT THEN
FOR TEN YEARS, MRS. DUGAN—
—HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK FOR ME?
WELL—I DON'T KNOW—IN WHAT CAPACITY?

DON WINSLOW

ON THIS CHRISTMAS DAY LET US REST AND COUNT OUR BLESSINGS BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE MORROW'LL BRING!
MISTRESS RING, DON'T YOU FEEL BETTER BEING ON OUR SIDE?
DECIDEDLY! YOUR PRAYER TOUCHED MY HEART... I FEEL CLEANSED...AND GLAD TO BE ON THE RIGHT SIDE AGAIN!
12-25-44

CHIEF WAHOO and STEVE ROPER

WHAT GOES ON HERE, CHIEF?
WAHOO FIXUM UP PICTURE LETTER, STEVE --TO EVER'BODY!
THAT I MUST SEE! GIVE--!
VERY INTERESTING! BUT HOW ABOUT FOLKS WHO NEVER HAD THE ADVANTAGES OF AN INDIAN EDUCATION?
HEAP EASY! IF THEY CAN'T FIGGER LIM OUT ALL THEY GOTTA DO IS STAND LIKE THIS--!
DEAR READER, WAHOO AND STEVE ROPER TAKE TIME OUT TODAY TO WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY "HOLLYDAY!" (SIGNED) Chief WAHOO (SAUNDERS CAMERON)

WINNIE WINKLE

YOUR PAW HAS SNEAKED ALL OF HIS PACKAGES OUT OF HERE! HE'S OPENING 'EM, OUTSIDE—
OH, I FORGOT ABOUT FATHER'S MYSTERIOUS CHRISTMAS GIFTS!!
I'M DYING TO SEE WHAT THEY ARE, AN' WHO THEY'RE FROM!!!
H'YA FOLKS! REMEMBER 'EM OL' RELICS Y'SOLD TO TH' JUNKMAN? WELL SANTA CLAUS BROUGHT 'EM BACK TO ME!

KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

JUST AS HE REASONS THAT ONLY DESIRE COULD HAVE KILLED PINKY DILL. KING LEARNS HIS ORIGINAL SUSPECT IS NOT IN JAIL!
GOOD GRIEF, KING! DO YOU THINK I'D BE DUMB ENOUGH TO GET RELEASED ON A WRIT...
...THEN COME DIRECTLY HERE AND MURDER PINKY?
YES, JACKSON!
THE EVIDENCE AT PRUE'S ESTATE ALL POINTED AT YOU...AND YOU USED THE SAME ALIBI!
THIS TIME THE CHARGE IS MURDER, NOT ATTEMPT....COME ALONG, JACKSON!

DONALD DUCK

Today's Radio Programs

Monday, December 25. Washington Eastern War Time

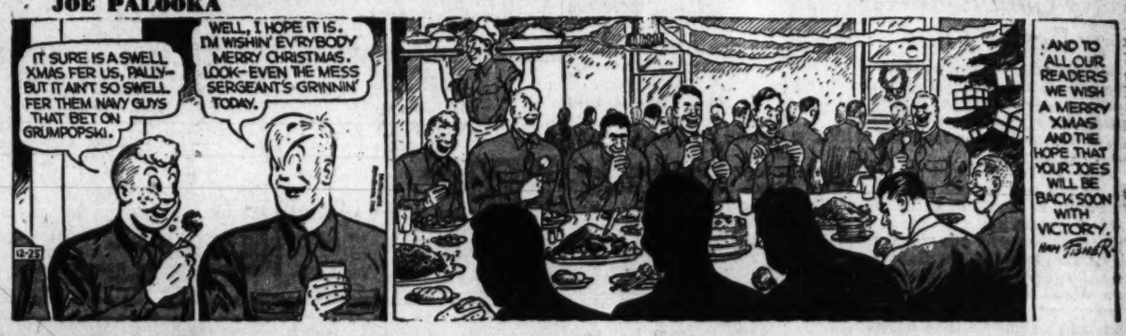
	WMAL 630	WRC 980	WOL 1260	WINX 1340	WWDC 1450	WTOP 1500
	Prelude, 6:05-7. News, 6, 7 and 8:30. Wills, 7:45. Town Clock, 7:10-7:45, 8-9.	Bill Herson, 6:05-9. World Roundup, 8. News at 6, 7, 7:55 and 8:30.	Prayer, 5:30. News, 5:45, 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8, 8:30. Art Brown, 6:35-9.	Jerry Strong, 6-9, from Walter Reed. News, 6, 7, 7:30, 8.	Serenade, 6:05-6:30. Crowley, 6:45-7. Hunnicutt, 7:05-9. News, 6, 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8:30.	Corn Squeezing Time, 5:45-6:45. Godfrey, 7 to 9:15. News, 6:45, 7:30 and 8. Mahoney, 7:40
9 :00	Breakfast Club	Spirit of Xmas	"Journey Home"	News; Music	Cash; Mike Hunnicutt	News, Godfrey
:15	" "	" "	" "	Music in the Air	Mike Hunnicutt	Home Service Daily
:30	" "	News	" "	Traffic Court	News; Mike Hunnicutt	CBS Air Theater
:45	" "	Broadway Melodies	" "	" "	Mike Hunnicutt	" "
10 :00	My True Story	Lora Lawton	News	News; Music Hall	Cash; Bing Crosby	Light of the World
:15	"	News	Mr. Moneybags	Music Hall	Crosby; Miss. Persons	" " "
:30	Cliff Edwards	Finders Keepers	Listen Ladies	" "	News; Alice Lane	This Changing World
:45	One Woman's Opin'n	" "	" "	" "	Alice Lane	Bachelor's Children
11 :00	Breakfast at Sardi's	Road of Life	News, Billy Repaid	News; Symphony	Cash; Alice Lane	Honeymoon Hill
:15	" "	Rosemary	Need Advice?	Handel's	Alice Lane	Second Husband
:30	Ruth Crane	Star Playhouse	Melody Time	"Messiah"	News; Morning	Bright Horizon
:45	" "	David Harum	What's Your Idea?	"	Matinee	Aunt Jenny
12 :00	News; Evans	News; Matinee	News; Gabriel Heatter	WINX News	News	Kate Smith Speaks
:15	Little Show	Matinee Today	Bob Hope Recording	Music	"	Big Sister
:30	Glamour Manor	Merry Xmas, Daddy	Xmas on the March	Weather; Music	News; Luncheon	Helen Trent
:45	" "	" " "	" "	Luncheon Music	With 400	Our Gal Sunday
1 :00	Baukhage Talking	Nancy Osgood	News, Walter Compt'n	WINX News	All Sports Parade	Life Can Be Beautiful
:15	Jack Berch	" "	Terry's House Party	Musical Bouquets	Tony Wakeman	Ma Perkins
:30	Land of the Lost	Poet's Corner	Luncheon With Lopez	" "	All Sports Parade	Christmas Overseas
:45	" " " "	Morgan Beatty	" " "	" "	Tony Wakeman	" "
2 :00	Christmas Program	Guiding Light	News; Cedric Foster	News; Club Caravan	All Sports Parade	Joyce Jordan
:15	" "	Today's Children	Russ Hodges	Club Caravan	Tony Wakeman	Two on a Clue
:30	" "	Women in White	Johnny Neblett	" "	All Sports Parade	Young Dr. Malone
:45	" "	Church Hymns	Russ Hodges	" "	Tony Wakeman	Perry Mason
3 :00	" "	Woman of America	News; Hodges	WINX News	Tony Wakeman	Mary Marlin
:15	" "	Ma Perkins	Russ Hodges	T for Two	All Sports Parade	Tena & Tim
:30	" "	Pepper Young	The Smoothies	" " "	Tony Wakeman	A Christmas Carol
:45	" "	Right to Happiness	Russ Hodges	" " "	All Sports Parade	" " "
4 :00	"Time" Views News	Backstage Wife	Walter Compton	News; Concert Moderne	All Sports Parade	Holiday Program
:15	Accent on Music	Stella Dallas	Russ Hodges	Concert Moderne	Tony Wakeman	" "
:30	News; Evans	Lorenzo Jones	Zeb Carver's Orch.	Jam for Supper	All Sports Parade	" "
:45	Hop Harrigan	Young Widow Brown	Russ Hodges	" "	Tony Wakeman	" "
5 :00	Terry & Pirates	When a Girl Marries	Compton; Art Brown	News; Music Hall	Band of the Day	" "
:15	Dick Tracy	Portia Faces Life	Brown at the Organ	Music Hall	Sinatra vs. Crosby	" "
:30	Jack Armstrong	Just Plain Bill	Superman	" "	News; Theater	" "
:45	Captain Midnight	Front Page Farrell	Tom Mix	" "	of the Air	" "
6 :00	News, Optimists	News; Leif Eid	Compton; Music	WINX News	News; Melody Lane	Mahoney, Castello
:15	Earl Godwin	Musicade	Frank Young, Piano	Dinner Music	Melody Lane	Lyn Murray Show
:30	Martin Agronsky	W. Waller; Bergman	Johnson Family	Hollywood News	Richard Eaton	"6:30 Show"
:45	Walter Kiernan	Lowell Thomas	Russ Hodges	News for Young Amer'	All Sports Parade	News, J. Harsch
7 :00	Heidt Time for Hires	Perry Como	Fulton Lewis, Jr.	WINX News	Romantic Rendezvous	I Love a Mystery
:15	" " "	News of the World	Today in History	Pop Concert	Roosevelt Hotel Orch.	Hedda Hopper
:30	The Lone Ranger	Stringtime	Duckpin Derby	Charles Pergler	Talking Pictures	Thanks to the Yanks
:45	" " "	Herson in Person	Dinner Concert	Dance Time	Bible Question Box	" " "
8 :00	Ted Malone	Cavalcade of America	Sizing Up the News	News; Trade Winds	St. Mary's Novena	"Vox Pop"
:15	Lum 'n Abner	" "	Doctors Courageous	For the Veterans	" " "	" "
:30	Blind Date	Voice of Firestone	Sherlock Holmes	Harmony Hall	News; 1450 Club	Frank Sinatra
:45	" "	" " "	" "	" "	1450 Club	" " ; News
9 :00	Counterspy	Telephone Hour	News, G. Heatter	News; Symphony	1450 Club	Lux Radio Theater
:15	"	" "	Real Life Stories	Symphony Hour	" "	" " "
:30	Spotlight Bands	Information Please	Wake Up America	" "	News; 1450 Club	" " "
:45	(Gene Krupa)	" " "	" " "	" "	1450 Club	" " "
10 :00	Ray. Gram Swing	Contented Program	News, Gladstone	News; Music	" "	Screen Guild Players
:15	Yanks in the Orient	" "	News, Schubert	So. American Way	" "	" " "
:30	Mel'dy in the Night	Dr. I. Q.	World's Most	Organ Reveries	News; 1450 Club	Johnny Morgan Show
:45	" " " "	" " "	Honored Music	Eddie Nesbitt	1450 Club	" " "
11 :00	News; Evans	News; Music	News, Billy Repaid	News; Musical	Club Ball Revue	News, Daly and Henry
:15	Hour of Dreams	Richard Harkness	Fulton Lewis, jr.	Roundup	" " "	Arch McDonald's
:30	" "	GI Christmas	Leo Reisman's Orch.	Del Rio Club	News, Hits of Day	"Moondial"
:45	" "	" "	" " "	" " "	Hits of the Day	Let's Listen

BOYS! *Inquire about the good Post delivery routes now open. Phone NAtional 4200, Extension 236*

THE SEA HOUND

BUT, CAPTAIN SILVER, WHY WOULD THE NAZI AGENTS TAKE MY FATHER TO THAT OLD ABANDONED CAFE?
WE'LL FIND OUT AS SOON AS I SNAP THE LEASH ON FLETCHA!

JOE PALOOKA


IT SURE IS A SWELL XMAS FER US, PALLY—BUT IT AIN'T SO SWELL FER THEM NAVY GUYS THAT BET ON GRUMPOPSKI.
WELL, I HOPE IT IS. I'M WISHIN' EV'RYBODY MERRY CHRISTMAS. LOOK—EVEN THE MESS SERGEANT'S GRINNIN' TODAY.
AND TO ALL OUR READERS WE WISH A MERRY XMAS AND THE HOPE THAT YOUR JOES WILL BE BACK SOON WITH VICTORY.
12-25

SUPERMAN

REMEMBER, CLARK, YOU'VE PROMISED TO TELL NO ONE ABOUT MY INHERITING $3,000,000 IF I MARRY WITHIN TEN DAYS...
I'LL KEEP THAT PROMISE, LOIS, NEVER FEAR.
AFTER ALL, IF I DO FIND SOMEONE I CAN LOVE ENOUGH TO MARRY, I WANT TO BE CERTAIN HE'S NOT MARRYING ME FOR MY MONEY!
MOMENTS LATER, IN EDITOR PERRY WHITE'S OFFICE...
SO YOU FINALLY GOT HERE! WHAT WAS THE MEANING OF YOUR OUTBURST OVER THE TELEPHONE?
JUST MY SILLY IDEA OF A JOKE. I HOPE YOU'LL OVERLOOK IT.
SUPPOSE IT WAS MY SILLY IDEA OF A JOKE TO FIRE YOU? AND NOW YOU'D BETTER GET TO WORK OR I MAY!
IT'D BE REALLY FUNNY IF HE REALIZED HE'S TALKING TO ONE OF THE RICHEST GIRLS IN AMERICA.!—
12-28

JANE ARDEN

CHERRI TINGLE LOVED STARK—ALL THE MORE REASON HE WOULDN'T KILL HIMSELF!
BUT ADAM BLAIR AND REX PLATO WERE IN LOVE WITH HER, TOO!
HOW'S THAT FOR A MOTIVE?
INSPECTOR, HOW DO WE KNOW THE CRIME WAS COMMITED BEFORE THE RAIN?
SIMPLE—THE RAIN OBLITERATED FOOTPRINTS BUT THE SAND UNDER THE BODY WAS STILL DRY!
12-25

NAPOLEON

BARNABY — By Crockett Johnson

Present the wrap to your mother now, m'boy. Later your Fairy Godfather may join your happy family in a bit of carol singing. Or a noggin of nut brown ale—
Okay
Sorry to bust in on you this way. On Christmas. We're working on that load of furs that disappeared out of the wrecked car. Just a routine check of the neighborhood
Come in, Officer
Maybe something you seen or heard during the night might give us a lead. Or—
No. We didn't hear a thing—
Merry Christmas, Mom—
Ermines!
12-25
CROCKETT JOHNSON

The Federal Diary

By Jerry Kluttz

Dear Santa: Do This For All These People

SANTA CLAUS, you could make one Cabinet officer, who must remain unnamed, very happy today if you would grant him this request:

KLUTTZ

"Give me a bureau chief who is at his office when I call him . . . who reads correspondence before he passes it on to me . . . uses the authority I've given him with the brains that God gave him instead of relapsing into Federalism . . . is present, in person, on the phone when he calls me. But," he adds, "deliver me from the bureau chief who takes annual leave every Saturday and thus, in effect, works a five-day week while his employes must observe a six-day week . . . who starts out on a field trip which I receive notice of after he has departed . . . who goes to lunch any time between 11 and 3 with such irregularity that for half the day I can't find him."

Give him a secretary, Santa, who completes her dressing at home . . . who arrives on time and is ready for work . . . who doesn't report in and then rush off to the cafeteria for breakfast . . . who types a clean letter the first time . . . who carries on her romancing after office hours . . . who answers the phone promptly and with spirit . . . . makes room for others in the cafeteria . . . is no clockwatcher . . . who carries on her share of the work cheerfully . . . who can spell . . . who doesn't tote milk shakes in open containers in crowded elevators while smoking a cigarette . . . who doesn't try to pry into his private life and who doesn't pop her chewing gum while taking dictation.

And Santa, you can bring the secretary a boss who tends to his personal chores . . . who doesn't make her buy his cigars, write his personal letters, buy his clothes, pack his bags when he goes on a field trip . . . a boss who treats her as a fellow employe instead of a servant . . . who arranges his work so she can work during the regular hours . . . who doesn't spend the day talking office politics and at the quitting hour decide he must dictate a few letters . . . who knows what he wants to say before he starts dictating . . . who doesn't use his secretary to spy and gather information on someone he wants to get fired . . . who doesn't chew a cigar while he's dictating . . . who doesn't take it out on her when he gets bawled out by a superior . . . who doesn't ask her to tell little white lies when he slips away for an afternoon of golf . . . and who moans that he's misunderstood by his wife.

Christmas would be made merrier for these people if Santa would make Vice President Henry A. Wallace the Secretary of Commerce . . . promote Paul V. McNutt to Secretary of Labor . . . let the public forget about Attorney General Biddle's relations with lawyer-lobbyist Tommy Corcoran . . . give State Secretary Stettinius a free hand in running the department . . . make Robert Hannegan Postmaster General . . . give Agriculture Secretary Wickard a real job to do . . . give General Somervell all the supplies he needs . . . let Frances Perkins resign as Secretary of Labor . . . make War Foods Administration and the Office of Price Administration work together . . . and keep Federal workers on the job till the war is over.

And Santa could do a lot on this Christmas Day to help the average white-collar employe in the Federal service. This employe isn't asking much. All he wants is for Congress to treat him like Congress requires his colleagues in private industry to be treated. He'd like to get an increase in base pay to help him offset increased living costs. His is the only substantial group in the Nation whose base pay hasn't been revised upward since the war. He'd like to get full overtime pay for overtime worked. And again, his is the only large group that doesn't get it. The average employe would be willing to settle for these benefits. Santa could forget about holiday pay, a uniform night differential, a dismissal wage and all of the other suggested reforms.

THIS CHRISTMAS DAY

This Christmas Day we ask that He
Who stilled the waves of Galilee
Protect our men on sea and land,
In air, in mud and burning sand;
Their task is great: with humble heart
We pray for strength to do our part,
And when at last this war shall cease,
Grant to all men a lasting peace.
As day by day through life we go,
We do not ask, or wish to know
What future years may have in store,
But pray that war shall be no more;
Then, ev'ry face will beam again
With "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men."
In simple faith teach us to say,
"Thy will be done," this Christmas Day."

W. M. DEVINE.

Gallinger's New Chef Commended For Better Food

Tuberculosis patients at Gallinger Hospital Saturday sent the hospital's new chef a letter of thanks for a marked improvement in the selection and preparation of food.

The appreciation note was directed at Chef Richard W. Waldt, who came to the Gallinger kitchen several months ago.

Patients formerly had registered bitter complaints against Gallinger menus, while investigating Senators a year ago reported the hospital's food is "poorly prepared, served in an unappetizing manner and is often cold when served."

Electors to Honor Roosevelt, Truman At Banquet Jan. 19

A reception and banquet for President Roosevelt and Vice President-elect Truman will be given by the Democratic presidential electors the night before the inauguration.

Michael Francis Doyle of Philadelphia, chairman of the electoral college, announced the affair will be given January 19.

Members of the Cabinet, the Supreme Court and high military and Navy officers have been invited.

On the following day, Doyle said, the President will give a reception at the White House to which the electors have been invited.

Management Ordered To Decorate Apartment

District Rent Control Examiner Ernest F. Williams Saturday ordered the management of the Broadmoor Apartments, 3601 Connecticut ave. nw. located in Washington's fashionable Chevy Chase section, to redecorate before January 12 the apartment occupied by Theodore Spector, assistant solicitor of the Interior Department.

Spector had previously complained before the Rent Control Commission that he was not receiving service equivalent to his more than $90 monthly rent.

WFMD
930 Kilocycles
MONDAY

MORNING
6:00 Uncle Joe.
6:45 Cordwood.
7:00 News.
7:05 Sunrise Salute.
7:15 Corwood and Bedford.
7:30 Sunrise Salute.
8:00 World News.
8:15 The Jubilaires.
8:30 News.
9:00 Morning Devotions.
9:15 School of the Air.
9:45 This Life Is Mine.
10:00 News.
10:05 Town Crier.
10:15 Cordwood.
10:30 Changing World.
10:45 Gospel Songs.
11:00 Tom and Herb.
11:15 Doc Williams
11:30 Bright Horizons.
11:45 Farm Time With Uncle Joe.

AFTERNOON
12:01 Bedford News.
12:15 Big Sister.
12:30 Helen Trent.
12:45 Our Gal Sunday.
1:00 Old Familiar Hymns.
1:30 Millie and Mollie.
1:45 Doc Williams.
2:00 Dixie Rogers.
2:30 Tom and Herb.
3:00 Mary Martin.
3:15 Merrill Fennigan.
3:30 High Places.
3:45 News, Bob Trout.
4:00 Service Time.
4:30 Raymond Scott Show.
5:00 Sing Along Club.
5:15 Name You Will Remember.
5:30 Treasury Department Presents.
5:45 Sports Parade.
6:00 Quincy Howe.

EVENING
6:15 Musical Varieties.
6:30 Sally Moore.
6:45 Dinner Music.
7:00 Preview of Programs.
7:15 Hedda Hopper.
7:30 Thanks to the Yanks.
8:00 Americans Speak.
8:30 Frank Sinatra.
9:00 Lux Theater.
10:00 Screen Guild Players.
10:30 Johnny Morgan Show.
11:00 News.
11:15 Danny O'Neill.
11:30 Jerry Wald Orchestra.

MONOCACY BROADCASTING CO.
FREDERICK, MD.

WINC
1400 Kilocycles
MONDAY

MORNING
7:00 Uncle Joe.
7:45 Morning Show.
8:00 Martin Agronsky.
8:15 Devotions.
8:30 News.
9:00 Breakfast Club.
10:00 True Story.
10:30 Martinsburg Wheel Program.
10:45 Cabbages and Kings.
11:00 Breakfast at Sardi's.
11:30 News.
11:45 Health Talk.
12:00 Hit Parade.

AFTERNOON
12:00 Melodies.
12:15 10-2-4 Ranch.
12:30 Farm and Home Program.
1:15 Radio Bible School.
1:45 Little Jack Little.
2:00 News.
2:15 The Mystery Chef.
2:30 Ladies, Be Seated.
3:00 Morton Downey.
3:15 Star Time.
3:30 Appointment With Life.
4:00 Blue Frolics.
4:15 Rev. Harry James.
4:30 News.
4:45 Sea Hound.
5:00 Terry and Pirates.
5:15 Dick Tracy.
5:30 Jack Armstrong.
5:45 Captain Midnight.

EVENING
6:00 Good Neighbor.
6:10 Don't You Believe It.
6:15 Spin and Win.
6:30 Evening Reveries.
6:45 Henry Taylor, News.
7:00 Heidi Time.
7:30 Concert Hall.
8:00 News.
8:15 Lum and Abner.
8:30 Blind Date.
9:00 Counter Spy.
9:30 Spotlight Band.
10:00 Raymond Gram Swing.
10:15 Top of the Evening.
10:30 Sign Off.

WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

WSVA
550 Kilocycles
MONDAY

MORNING
6:30 Rev. Malden.
6:45 News, Markets.
7:00 Red Belcher.
7:15 Trading Post.
7:30 News.
7:45 Plough Boys.
8:00 Curley Joe.
8:15 Smiles.
8:30 Lee Moore.
9:00 Kitchen Frolic.
9:30 Johnson Trio.
9:45 News.
10:00 Buddy Starcher.
10:30 Sixth War Loan Program.
10:45 Women's Page.
11:00 News.
11:15 Reed Organ.
11:30 Lee Moore.

AFTERNOON
12:00 Juanita.
12:15 Purple Sage Trio.
12:30 News.
12:45 Markets.
1:00 10-2-4 Ranch.
1:15 Campfire Roundup.
2:00 News.
2:15 Town Crier.
2:30 Buddy Starcher.
3:00 Lee Moore.
3:30 News.
3:45 Modern Romances.
4:00 Road of Life.
4:15 Life Can Be Beautiful.
4:30 Ma Perkins.
4:45 U. P. News.
5:00 Story Lady.
5:15 Jimmy Allen.
5:30 Hayden Families.
5:45 News.
6:00 Sign Off.

WJEJ
1240 Kilocycles
MONDAY

MORNING
7:00 Early Bird.
8:45 Family Altar.
9:00 Organ Melodies.
9:30 Man With a Band.
10:00 Billy Repaid.
10:15 Morning Devotions.
10:30 Shady Valley Folks.
11:00 Arthur Gaeth.
11:15 Saddle Pals.
11:45 Interlude.

AFTERNOON
12:00 News and Gabriel Heatter.
12:15 Music in Letter Vein.
12:30 Naval Academy Band.
1:00 Ray Daly.
1:15 Soil Conservation.
1:30 Lunch with Lopez.
1:45 American Woman's Jury.
2:00 Cedric Foster.
2:15 Saddle Pals.
2:30 Open House.
2:45 To Be Announced.
3:00 Morton Downey.
3:15 Two Key Boards.
3:30 The Smoothies.
3:45 Tic Toc Tunes.
4:00 Romantic Cycle.
4:15 Johnson Family.
4:30 Zeb Carver.
4:45 Handy Man.
5:00 Radio Roundup.
5:15 Interlude.
5:30 Superman.
5:45 Tom Mix.

EVENING
6:00 Prayer; Sports.
6:15 Faye and Pete.
6:30 Candlelight and Silver.
7:00 Fulton Lewis.
7:15 Musical Party.
7:30 Old Corral.
7:45 Voice of the Army.
8:00 Cecil Brown.
8:15 Sunny Skyler.
8:30 Music and Song.
9:00 Gabriel Heatter.
9:15 Something for the Girls.
9:30 Music of Worship.
10:00 Henry Gladstone.
10:15 Paul Schubert.
10:30 Mariree.
10:45 Lew Diamond.
11:00 Band; Sports.
11:20 Sign Off.

WFVA
1300 Kilocycles
MONDAY

MORNING
7:45 Music.
8:00 Martin Agronsky.
8:15 Hour of Prayer.
8:30 News Summary.
8:45 Morning Devotions.
9:00 Breakfast Club.
10:00 My True Story.
10:30 Name the Tune.
10:45 Morning Melodies.
11:00 Breakfast at Sardi's.
11:30 Gil Martyn—News.
11:45 Gossip for Girls.

AFTERNOON
12:00 Band of the Week.
12:15 Chief Alton Frix.
12:30 Farm and Home Hour.
1:00 Baukage—News.
1:15 Lum 'n' Abner.
1:30 Concert Hall.
2:00 Kiernan's Corner.
2:15 Hollywood Hits.
2:30 Ladies Be Seated.
2:45 Money Man.
3:00 Morton Downey.
3:15 Star Time.
3:30 Appointment with Life.
4:00 Ethel and Albert.
4:15 Mary Washington College.
4:30 Time Views the News.
4:45 Hop Harrigan.
5:00 Terry and the Pirates.
5:15 Dick Tracy.
5:30 Jack Armstrong.
5:45 Captain Midnight.
6:00 Melody Time.
6:15 Charlie King, Music.
6:30 Sign Off.

FREDERICKBURG BROADCASTING
Fredericksburg, Va.

Paper Urges Nisei To Stay Out of Valley in Oregon

Hood River, Oreg., Dec. 24 (AP).—The Hood River American Legion post published quarter-page advertisement in local press urging Japanese not to return to Hood River County.

The post, which recently scratched Japanese-American servicemen's names from its honor roll, has been backing a campaign to prevent Nisei from resettling in this apple valley.

"Public records show there are about 24 or 30 families out of some 600 Japanese who have not already sold their property in Hood River County," said the advertisement. "We strongly urge these to dispose of their holdings. If you desire assistance from this post in disposing of your land we pledge ourselves to see that you get a square deal.

"If you do return we also pledge that to the best of our ability we will uphold law and order and will recommend no violence."

Governor-Elect's Wife, His Aide Make Trip in Baggage Car

Cleveland, Dec. 24 (AP).—Mrs. Frank J. Lausche, Ohio's first lady-elect, has a real understanding of the rigors of Christmas and wartime travel, John E. Lokar, secretary to the Governor-elect said yesterday.

Mrs. Lausche and her husband's secretary went to Columbus this week on business, the former to make arrangements for taking over the Governor mansion next month, and Lokar to arrange details of the Cleveland Mayors inauguration as Ohio's chief executive, January 8.

They started the return trip to Cleveland standing in a crowded day coach. A coupling broke and they were told they could complete the trip in a baggage car or wait for the next train.

Mrs. Lausche rode into Cleveland seated on a box in the baggage car while Lokar perched atop a crate housing a dog.

WCHV
1450 Kilocycles
MONDAY

MORNING
7:00 Musical Clock.
8:00 Martin Agronsky.
8:15 Morning Melodies.
8:30 News Correspondents.
8:45 Lucky Lady.
9:00 Breakfast Club.
10:00 True Story.
10:30 Sunny Side of the Street.
10:45 One Woman's Opinion.
11:00 Breakfast at Sardi's.
11:30 News.
11:45 Jack Berch.

AFTERNOON
12:00 Glamour Manor.
12:30 News; Devotions.
12:45 Town Crier.
12:55 Movie Guide.
1:00 Baukhage Talking.
1:15 Music of the Masters.
1:45 Show Tune Time.
2:00 Kiernan's Corner.
2:15 Mystery Chef.
2:30 Ladies Be Seated.
3:00 Morton Downey.
3:15 20th Century Serenade.
3:45 Sincerely Yours.
4:00 "Time" Views the News.
4:15 Easy Rhythm.
4:30 Christmas Stories.
4:45 Hop Harrigan.
5:00 Terry and the Pirates.
5:15 Dick Tracy.
5:30 Jack Armstrong.
5:45 10-2-4 Ranch.

EVENING
6:00 News; Music.
6:15 Texas Rangers.
6:30 News; Songs.
6:45 Henry J. Taylor.
7:00 Wayne King.
7:15 Service Unlimited.
7:30 Modern Romances.
7:45 Confidentially Yours.
8:00 News and Ted Malone.
8:15 Lum and Abner.
8:30 Blind Date.
9:00 Counter Spy.
9:30 Spotlight Bands.
10:00 Raymond Gram Swing.
10:15 Bob and Ilene.
10:30 Good Old Days.
11:00 Music You Want.
11:30 Saludos Amigos.
12:00 News.
12:05 Sign Off.

Died 1

CARTER, EDITH E. On Saturday, December 23, 1944, EDITH E. CARTER, the beloved wife of Frank A. Carter and mother of Harold James and Lieut. Richard Francis Carter, USA. Services at W. W. Deal funeral home, 4812 Ga. ave. nw., on Tuesday, December 26, at 8 p. m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment private.

Died 1

DALY, GRACE CECELIA. On Saturday, December 23, 1944, at her residence, 929 11th st. ne., GRACE CECELIA DALY (nee Walsh), beloved wife of John J. Daly and mother of Mary A., Grace C. Daly and Sue T. Marino and sister of David F. Walsh and Mrs. Mary Broderick. Funeral from the above residence on Tuesday, December 26, at 9:30 a. m. High requiem mass at Holy Name Church at 9 a. m. Interment Mount Olivet Cemetery. Relatives and friends invited. (New York and Philadelphia papers, please copy.)

DEMENT, JOHN R. On Friday, December 22, 1944, JOHN R. DEMENT, the beloved husband of Genevieve Dement (nee Bailey). Funeral from the James T. Ryan funeral home, 317 Pa. ave. se., on Tuesday, December 26, at 8:45 a. m.; thence to Mount Calvary Church, Forestville, Md., where mass will be offered at 9:30 a. m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Cedar Hill Cemetery.

FINDLAY, MARY J. On Friday, December 22, 1944, at New York City, MARY J. FINDLAY, beloved wife of Robert E. Findlay of 6011 Broad Branch rd. nw. Remains resting at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase funeral home of Wm. Reuben Pumphrey. Services Tuesday, December 26, at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Chevy Chase Circle, where requiem mass will be offered at 9:30 a. m. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery, near Rockville, Md.

GAUSS, CHESTER A. Suddenly, on Friday, December 22, 1944, at New York City, N. Y., CHESTER A. GAUSS, beloved brother of Herman C., Clarence E. and Harry W. Gauss. Services at the S. H. Hines Co. funeral home, 2901 14th st. nw., on Tuesday, December 26, at 2 p. m. Interment Cedar Hill Cemetery.

GOGGIN, ROBERT E. Suddenly, on Friday, December 22, 1944, ROBERT E. GOGGIN, beloved husband of Marian Goggin of 4418 Harrison st. nw. Remains resting at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase funeral home of Wm. Reuben Pumphrey. Services Wednesday, December 27, at St. Ann's Church, 4400 Wisconsin ave. nw. Requiem mass will be offered at 9 a. m. Interment Arlington National Cemetery.

Died 1

HINES, ROBERT WILLIAM. On Friday, December 22, 1944, ROBERT WILLIAM HINES, of 27 Rock Creek Church rd. nw., beloved husband of Elizabeth M. Hines, father of Barbara Ann Hines and son of William P. Hines and Mary A. Hines (nee Burns). Services at the S. H. Hines Co. funeral home, 2901 14th st. nw., on Tuesday, December 26, at 9 a. m., thence to St. Gabriel's Church, Orant Circle, where mass will be offered at 9:30 a. m. Interment Mount Olivet Cemetery.

HUGHES, JOHN W. On Friday, December 22, 1944, at Georgetown Hospital, JOHN W. HUGHES, the beloved husband of Dolly L. Hughes and father of Technical Sergt. John W., Jr., Flight Officer Robert L., Caroline V., Cynthia M. Hughes, Mrs. Evelyn Allen, Mrs. Virginia Kennedy, Mrs. Frances Bernhard, Mrs. Jean Sey, Mrs. Betty Bell and Mrs. Shirley Allen, and sister of Mrs. Ruth Bishop, Miss Margaret Bartell and Mrs. Virginia Thurston. Services at Chambers funeral home, 517 11th st. se., on Tuesday, December 26, at 2:30 p. m. Interment Cedar Hill Cemetery.

JOHNSTON, BURL ROBERT. On Saturday, December 16, 1944, at Mare Island Naval Hospital, Mare Island, Calif., BURL ROBERT JOHNSTON, USN, the beloved husband of Louise Farmer Johnston and son of Mrs. Mona Roberts Johnston. Friends are invited to call at the Lee funeral home, 4th st. and Mass. ave. ne. Notice of funeral later.

JOHNSON, FRANCES D. On Friday, Dec. 22, 1944, at the U. S. N. Medical Center, FRANCES D. JOHNSON, Ens. (N. C.) U. S. N., retired, the beloved sister of Mrs. Alva Conner and Mrs. E. C. H. Bantel. Remains resting at Chambers funeral home, 1400 Chapin st. nw. Funeral services at Fort Meyer Chapel on Tuesday, December 26, at 2 p. m. Interment Arlington National Cemetery.

LE VAN, ELSIE HOSFELD. On Saturday, December 23, 1944, at her residence, 1711 19th st. nw., ELSIE HOSFELD LE VAN, beloved wife of Herbert M. Le Van. Remains resting at S. H. Hines Co., 2901 14th st. nw., until 10 p. m. Tuesday, December 26. Services and interment Harrisburg, Pa.

Died 1

LIBBEY, EDWARD W. On Saturday, December 23, 1944, at his residence, 16 R st. ne., EDWARD W. LIBBEY, beloved husband of Edith B. Libbey and father of Edward H., Hadley W., Libbey, Mrs. Mildred L. Deisbanty and Mrs. Ruth O. Farrar. Friends may call at the Lee funeral home, 4th st. and Mass. ave. ne., where services will be held on Tuesday, December 26, at 11 a. m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Glenwood Cemetery.

O'CONNOR, CHARLES. On Friday, December 22, 1944, CHARLES O'CONNOR, beloved husband of Lillian O'Connor (nee Mills) and father of Mrs. Virginia O. C. Unvin and Mary Ellen O'Connor and brother of Edward O'Connor. Funeral from his late residence, 902 Jefferson st. nw., on Tuesday, December 26, at 9:30 a. m.; thence to the Church of Nativity, where mass will be offered at 9 a. m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Chestnut Grove, Herndon, Va.

PLESS, HAZEL L. On Saturday, December 23, 1944, at her residence, 1823 T pl. se., HAZEL L. PLESS, beloved wife of Dunbar M. Pless, mother of Nancy D. Pless, daughter of Mary V. Cockrill. Services at Chambers funeral home, 517 11th st. se., on Tuesday, December 26, at 11 a. m. Interment Warrenton, Va.

SEABLOM, CHARLES HARTWELL. On Friday, December 22, 1944, at Providence Hospital, CHARLES HARTWELL SEABLOM, husband of Hilma E. Seablom and father of Dolores C. Seablom, brother of Mrs. E. G. Philip, Mrs. R. C. Mooney, Mrs. R. E. Bowman, Mrs. George F. Everly, Mrs. L. J. Meade and Detrick M. Seablom. Funeral services on Tuesday, December 26, at 2 p. m., at Wheatley funeral home, Alexandria, Va. Interment Ivy Hill Cemetery.

YOUNGERMAN, ANNA M. On Saturday, December 23, 1944, ANNA M. YOUNGERMAN, beloved wife of George Youngerman and mother of Mrs. Dorothy Allen and Harry Eubank and sister of George and Pearce Bowers and Mrs. C. M. Wenrich. Services at the W. W. Deal funeral home, 816 H st. ne., on Tuesday, December 26, at 2 p. m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Merry Christmas to WTOP • CBS listeners
Elgin

Enjoy our
TWO HOUR
HOLIDAY TREAT

Top stars of radio, stage and screen are presented for American and Allied fighting forces throughout the world and listeners at home. The artists at the right will be joined by other favorites of the entertainment field.

4:00 - 6:00 P. M.

WTOP CBS 1500

LISTEN: A True Story About Christmas

This is not a story about sports, although it concerns a prizefighter who was one of the best. It is a true story about Christmas.

Maybe you've heard of Felix Distrito . . . maybe you haven't. He was a game, husky brown-skinned Filipino who made quite a living with his fists. In his day, Felix Distrito was a good fighter . . . and he was happy. He had a wife . . . a little boy . . . a nice home . . . and money. But one day—tragedy! His eyes. At first he didn't tell his wife about it, but as things grew dimmer and dimmer, Felix Distrito couldn't hide his secret any longer. The fights he had had, the blows he had taken, robbed him of his sight.

Felix Distrito bought himself a beautiful police dog named "Queenie." Wherever he went she was his guiding footsteps. The money Felix had saved dwindled to nothing. To live, he found a job peddling peanuts in the very sports arena where he once was cheered.

Late in December Little Distrito became sick. For days Felix did not leave the bedside of his feverish child . . . and for days Queenie stood by her master's side, watching and waiting with almost human understanding. There was no food, no money for doctors. Felix was helpless . . . helpless until Queenie came closer to him and pressed her cold nose into his hand. Somehow, Felix understood. He put on his shabby coat and hat . . . and walked out of the house. Queenie followed. Felix Distrito went to a local radio station—sought out the sports announcer who had often been helpful, and told him his story . . . begged him to broadcast that a fine, faithful dog was for sale . . . a dog named "Queenie." The sports announcer nodded his head. That night, an appeal went out over the air—not for someone to buy Queenie, but an appeal for help for a courageous blind prizefighter who was willing to sell his "eyes" so that his child might live. Money poured in . . . from fight fans . . . from hard-boiled boxing managers . . . from plain, ordinary people. A child soon got well . . . and Felix and Queenie remained together.

Although this happened one December day a number of years ago, it's always around Yuletide that this story comes back to mind, a story of someone who found warmth in the true meaning of Merry Christmas . . .

★

And Merry Christmas to our own Arch McDonald who was the sports announcer who played Santa Claus in the story you've just read!

This is
WTOP
the COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM